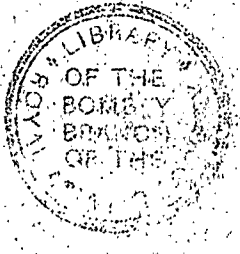
BOMBAY—1931-32

A Review of the Administration of the Presidency



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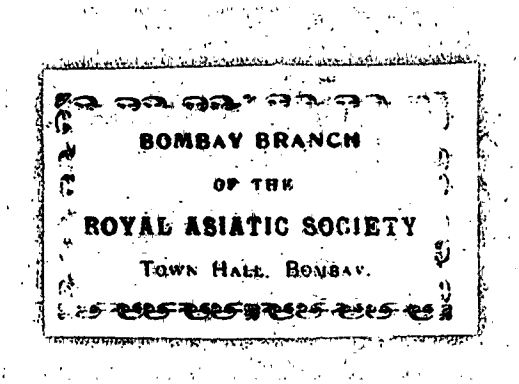

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BOMBAY—1931-32

A Review
of the
Administration of the Presidency

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INTRODUCTION

The Administration Report for 1931-32 is on the same lines as last year. It is divided into two parts :

Part I is a general summary of the year's work.

Part II deals with the work and events of the year under review and is preceded, where necessary, by a note explaining the history and functions of the department of Government whose work is reviewed and its place in the administration.

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BOMBAY—1931-32

PART I

GENERAL SUMMARY

THE early part of the year under review was principally concerned with the working out of the agreement arrived at between His Excellency the Viceroy, Lord Irwin, and Mr. Gandhi, which was referred to in the concluding portion of last year's review. The annual session of the All-India National Congress was held at Karachi from the 27th to the 31st of March and ended in Mr. Gandhi securing the endorsement of the agreement and in his appointment as "Dictator" to represent the Congress at the second stage of the Round Table Conference. It was soon evident, however, that the agreement was regarded by many followers of the Congress as a period for intensive preparation for the renewal of the struggle and, as events developed, there was no dearth of evidence to show that, with the possible exception of Mr. Gandhi himself, the Congress leaders were by no means in a mood to conform to the spirit or the letter of the agreement. Every effort was made to declare that the settlement was a Congress victory and that it was merely a temporary truce and there was a good deal of talk by responsible leaders of the girding up of loins for the future struggle. Propaganda against Government was continued with unabated vigour; dissolved Congress Committees were reconstituted; numerous public meetings were held at which stress was laid on the necessity of keeping alive the "war mentality"; measures for the boycott of foreign and particularly of British cloth were improved upon; picketing was revived on an intensive scale; special attention was directed towards the reorganisation of the Hindustan Seva Dal as an auxiliary

to the Congress ; the enlistment of volunteers was intensified ; training classes were instituted in various places at which training on military or semi-military lines was imparted ; and almost every other form of Congress activity was revived. It was in this atmosphere that the Working Committee of the Congress met in Bombay early in August and adopted a resolution against Mr. Gandhi's participation in the second Round Table Conference. Mr. Gandhi followed this up by the publication on the 20th August of his " charge sheet " of alleged breaches by Government of the Delhi settlement, but wiser counsels prevailed and Mr. Gandhi eventually sailed for London on the 29th August.

In the meantime on the 22nd July, a dastardly attempt was made by a student on the life of His Excellency Sir Ernest Hotson, the Acting Governor of Bombay, when, accompanied by Lady Hotson, he visited the Fergusson College at Poona, at the invitation of the College authorities. Two shots from a revolver were fired at His Excellency at point-blank range and although both shots hit His Excellency on the region of the heart, His Excellency had a providential escape owing to the defectiveness of the ammunition. Later as His Excellency and Lady Hotson were leaving the College, one of the students smashed the window at the back of the car in which they were seated. His Excellency's assailant was convicted and sentenced in due course to eight years' rigorous imprisonment under section 307, Indian Penal Code, and to two years' rigorous imprisonment on each of the charges under section 19 (*e*) and (*f*) of the Arms Act, the sentences to run concurrently.

In response to popular clamour, Government appointed Mr. R. G. Gordon, I.C.S., to conduct an enquiry into a number of charges levelled against the Revenue and Police officials in regard to the methods adopted by them in the collection of land revenue in certain villages of the Bardoli taluka of the Surat district. Great stress had been laid by the Congress leaders on the necessity for this enquiry, but realising the

weakness of its case, the Congress eventually found a pretext for withdrawing from the enquiry by putting forward a demand, which the Enquiry Officer refused, for the wholesale production of all kinds of documents. The Enquiry Officer's report was published in December and the result of his findings, which clearly revealed the hollowness of the Congress charges, was a heavy blow to Congress prestige in Gujarat and throughout India.

Meanwhile Congress leaders were endeavouring to discount the results achieved by the Round Table Conference and were actively engaged in consolidating their position in preparation for a revival of the civil disobedience campaign and in exploiting the Delhi settlement for the purpose of adding to the prestige of the Congress and of securing for it and its adherents a position of privilege not enjoyed by any other organisation or by members of the general public. Their preparation had reached a stage at which orderly government was seriously menaced. Mr. Gandhi returned to Bombay on the 28th of December and within a few days the Working Committee of the Congress declared the resumption of civil disobedience. Immediate steps were taken by Government to equip themselves with the necessary powers to meet the challenge and to cope with a movement with which the ordinary law was not designed to deal. Ordinances were promulgated by the Governor General and brought into force in the Bombay Presidency. On the 4th of January Messrs. Gandhi and Vallabhbhai Patel were arrested and confined in the Yeravda Central Prison under Bombay Regulation XXV of 1827. By the 9th of January 189 leaders had been arrested under the Emergency Powers Ordinance and by the 15th, 229 more had been dealt with throughout the Presidency. 526 associations were declared to be unlawful under the Indian Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1908 and 143 of their buildings were notified for seizure under Ordinance IV. This vigorous offensive against Congress on all fronts, combined with the effective control exercised over the press, successfully prevented the movement from gaining

momentum and enabled Government to restore peace throughout the Presidency. On the 7th January His Excellency issued a message to the people of the Presidency in which he pointed out that the Ordinances were promulgated to enable Government to discharge its duty towards the people and to save them from the consequences which must inevitably follow if the civil disobedience movement were allowed to develop. His Excellency stressed the point that no law-abiding citizen had anything to fear from the Ordinances, but that on the contrary the Ordinances would assist Government to protect law-abiding citizens in the pursuit of their lawful activities and usual avocations and that it was the duty of such citizens to abstain from participating in or encouraging the movement. This message was well received and had an excellent effect. By the steady pressure maintained on all forms of Congress activity the end of the year under report saw the civil disobedience movement well under control, and except in Bombay City and the Kanara district, it was no longer an active menace, though the mischief in many places was only latent and liable to break out afresh if the grip of the law were relaxed. There was an almost entire absence of the wild and disgraceful scenes which were a feature of the 1930 campaign. Government was enabled to collect its revenues and to deal effectually with intimidation and the practice of social boycott. The few desultory attempts to revive forest satyagraha in some districts of the Central and Southern Divisions were promptly suppressed. There can be no doubt that practically all classes of the community were grateful for the maintenance of a peaceful atmosphere in which they were able to attend to their daily avocations undisturbed, and that the great bulk of them recognised that the measures taken by Government were justified and necessary and welcomed their success.

Finance.—World trade depression aggravated by Congress manœuvres, which brought commerce into the political arena, had their repercussions upon the trade and finances of the Presidency. Some sections of the mercantile community

in Bombay City actively supported and encouraged a campaign of boycott and dislocation of business by frequent hartals with the result that Bombay lost business to other provinces which it will probably never regain.

In the following pages it will be seen that almost every revenue producing department of Government was affected to a greater or less degree by the civil disobedience movement, which, on the other hand, necessitated increased expenditure by such departments as police and jails. The principal cause, however, of the disastrous deterioration in the finances of the Presidency was the tremendous slump in agricultural prices, combined with continued trade depression. As the Honourable the Finance Member pointed out in his Budget Speech in February 1932 reviewing the year 1931-32, suspensions and remissions of land revenue amounted to 19 lakhs and the fall in irrigation receipts due to suspensions and reductions in the water rates was expected to be no less than 35 lakhs. Due to trade depression revenue from Stamps had fallen by 10 lakhs and from Forests by 12 lakhs. The net worsening of revenues amounted to 73 lakhs and the total deficit was estimated at 111 lakhs, which it would be necessary to borrow. In an endeavour to meet an unprecedented situation Government took unprecedented action. Departmental budgets were subjected to definite percentage reductions, the pay of Government servants was cut by 10 per cent., additional taxation was imposed, but, with all these economies, the financial year 1931-32 closed with the certainty that the following year would again show a deficit, which would have to be covered by borrowings.

Trade and Commerce.—Though the year under report opened under somewhat happier political auspices and with a hope of a recovery in commodity prices, it was soon evident that the economic landslide was continuing in full force. The severity of its effects may be gauged from one example. Exports of raw cotton, Bombay's chief export commodity, were valued at Rs. 16 crores in 1931-32 as against a figure of Rs. 48 crores

in 1928-29 and as cotton comprises about 50 per cent. of the total export trade it can easily be realised to what depths the export trade has fallen. In these circumstances, a balance of trade adverse to India might have been expected. The export of Rs. 60 crores of gold, however, proved a very substantial make-weight. Nor have internal trading conditions been altogether happy. The intransigence of one political party paralysed, for the best part of the year, Bombay as a trading centre and the mills were prevented from taking full advantage of a situation which from the political and fiscal points of view appeared to be greatly in their favour.

Imports of merchandise again contracted by Rs. 7·18 crores, or nearly 13 per cent. to Rs. 49·76 crores. In most commodities, quantities and values fell simultaneously. Almost all articles of import shared in the contraction, the more important among them being metals and ores, grain, pulse and flour, sugar, cotton manufactures, motor cars and motor cycles etc. and machinery and millwork. The only important articles which showed noticeable increases were artificial silk and raw cotton. Imports of treasure also declined by Rs. 13·48 crores to Rs. 4·43 crores.

Exports of Indian produce also showed a further falling off of Rs. 21·51 crores, or nearly 41 per cent. to Rs. 31·51 crores, almost all the principal articles contributing to the fall. World depression in trade and the slump in commodity prices were mainly responsible for this heavy decrease which was most marked in the case of raw cotton, seeds, metals and ores and raw hides and skins.

The year under report also witnessed a further falling off in the entrepot trade of Bombay. The total value of foreign merchandise re-exported declined by Rs. 38·88 lakhs, partly due to lower prices and partly to smaller re-shipments of cotton manufactures, oils, gums and resins, machinery and millwork, coal and coke and spices.

The value of the total foreign trade of Bombay increased by Rs. 16·41 crores, or 12 per cent. to Rs. 149·76 crores, owing entirely to heavy shipments of gold. Both imports and exports of merchandise showed considerable decreases. Imports of

precious metals also declined by Rs. 13·44 crores but exports thereof advanced by Rs. 58·97 crores entirely representing larger shipments of gold as a result of the British suspension of the gold standard and the rise in the sterling price of gold.

The value of the total coasting trade also rose by Rs. 4·46 crores, or by 8 per cent. to Rs. 58·21 crores, imports contributing Rs. 24·02 lakhs and exports Rs. 4·22 crores towards the rise.

The gross collections of the Bombay Custom House increased from Rs. 11·90 crores to Rs. 12·38 crores. The increase was due to enhanced import duties and the levy of duties from October 1931 on raw cotton, machinery and coal-tar dyes which were formerly free. The figures exclude the collections on account of the various cesses, such as cotton cess and tea cess.

The maritime trade of Sind suffered a further falling off from the already low level of the preceding year. The total value amounted to Rs. 49·14 crores as against Rs. 57·90 crores in the preceding year. Foreign trade, which forms 63 per cent. of the entire trade, was alone responsible for a decline of Rs. 11·13 crores, the value having decreased from Rs. 42·23 crores to Rs. 31·10 crores. On the other hand, coasting trade showed a considerable improvement, the value having risen by Rs. 2·37 crores to Rs. 18·04 crores. Foreign imports and exports both declined, the former by 24 per cent. and the latter by 29 per cent., wheat playing an important part in the decline of exports by 94 per cent.

The gross collections on account of Customs revenue amounted to Rs. 5·65 crores as against Rs. 6·37 crores in the preceding year.

Agriculture.—The season under review, considering the Kharif and the Rabi crops together, was generally satisfactory over a large part of the Bombay Presidency including Sind, except in Khandesh and the Karnatak where cotton, the main crop, suffered considerably due to excessive rains in the former and deficiency of rains in the latter. The wheat crop in the Karnatak also suffered due to a severe attack of rust. The special feature of the season was that in many areas the deficiency of rains in one month was counterbalanced by their abundance

in the following month or *vice versa* with the result that in spite of the uneven distribution of the rains, the season was, as far as the food supply to the general population was concerned, one of plenty.

The most outstanding feature of the year was the very low prices of all agricultural produce prevailing throughout the Presidency. Wages of labour also ruled lower than during the preceding year, although the fall in wages was not generally proportionate to the fall in prices of foodstuffs. The net result of these factors was that, for labouring classes earning cash wages, the year under report was favourable.

During the year under review, the gross cropped area increased by 240,000 acres to 29,372,000 acres or by ·8 per cent., while the net cropped area increased by 146,000 acres to 28,386,000 acres or by ·5 per cent. The twice cropped area also showed an increase of 10·5 per cent. as compared with the previous year, having risen from 892,000 acres in 1930-31 to 986,000 acres, during the year under report. In Sind, on the other hand, the gross cropped area, the twice cropped area and the net cropped area showed a considerable decline by 570,000, 44,000 and 528,000 acres respectively below the previous year, due to the unsatisfactory character of the inundation.

The area under food crops decreased by 431,000 acres or by 2·1 per cent. as compared with the preceding year, while the area under non-food crops showed a general increase which amounted to 670,000 acres or 8·2 per cent. above the previous year. In Sind, with the exception of gram which rose by 14,000 acres to 287,000 acres, there was a decrease of a varying extent among almost all the food and non-food crops owing to the unsatisfactory inundation of the river.

Department of Agriculture.—The year was notable for the attention given to the problem of protecting India's raw and manufactured products from foreign competition. The Sugar Industries (Protection) Act, 1932, made provision for the protection of Indian-produced sugar for a period of 15 years ending on the 31st March 1946. Another important piece of legislation of far reaching importance to Indian Agriculture was the passing of the Cotton Contracts Act of 1932 which

provides for the better management of the Bombay Cotton Market. The establishment by the Government of India of a section of Agricultural Meteorology to investigate and standardise the best methods for the measurement of radiation, evaporation, soil temperature and soil humidity, was also an event of some significance to the Indian Agriculture, during the year.

The organisation of the seed supply of new and improved varieties of crops was one of the major services the Departments rendered to agriculture. A large volume of seed of the staple crops, such as cotton and rice, was made available to the cultivator during the year. Improvement of cattle through the supply of superior bulls for breeding purposes was also one of its chief services. Demonstrations of the correct ways of tal making, advice on the selection of farm machinery, assisting the public to fence their lands to protect their crops and promotion of co-operative schemes were the chief activities of the Department during the year. In addition, various research schemes, such as sugarcane, dry farming, fresh fruit export, cotton wilt, cotton physiology and crop breeding were undertaken, as a result of the impetus given to Agricultural Research by the Royal Commission on Indian Agriculture. Agricultural propaganda to bring home to the minds of the public the improvements worked out by the Department through its research activities was carried out with the help of various other non-official agencies. Apart from the regular education provided at the Poona Agricultural College and the vernacular agricultural schools at Dhulia and Devihosur, the Department organised classes for giving instruction in special subjects, such as horticulture and tractor drawing.

The total expenditure of the Department amounted to Rs. 13 lakhs.

Public Instruction.—The year 1930–31 saw the first check to that steady expansion of expenditure in education to which the Presidency had grown accustomed since the Reforms. The actual decrease was only a lakh and affected principally the building programme, but it was the beginning of what subsequent experience had shown to be a progressive and very

probably somewhat prolonged, downward movement. The year also saw an actual decline in the number of students in colleges. This was attributed partly to the reduction in passes at the Matriculation examination in 1930 and partly to political ferment. The civil disobedience movement made a definite set at college students. While it should be readily admitted that large bodies of students showed a spirit of discipline and devotion to their studies, the strain to which the whole body of youth in the Presidency was subjected, was brought forcibly to public notice by the attitude of a number of students of the Fergusson College when one of their number made an attempt on the life of Sir Ernest Hotson, Officiating Governor of Bombay, who was visiting the college on 22nd July 1931. Generally the year was a satisfactory one. A very satisfactory improvement was observed in all sections of Muhammadan education, though the state of female Muhammadan education in Sind was a matter of concern.

In 1931–32 though the total number of educational institutions decreased by 53 to 17,159, during the year under report, the number of pupils in them increased by 45,447 to 1,332,693. Out of a total of 26,813 towns and villages, 10,831 possessed schools, the average area served by each town or village with a school being 11·4 square miles. The percentage of male scholars under instruction in all kinds of institutions to the total male population was 9·07 as against 9·96 in the preceding year, the corresponding percentages of female scholars to the female population being 2·83 and 3·00 respectively. The total expenditure on Public Instruction amounted to Rs. 399·28 lakhs of which 47·5 per cent. was met from Government Funds and the rest from Board Funds, Fees and Other Sources. Primary schools alone absorbed over Rs. 205 lakhs exclusive of expenditure on inspection, construction and repairs. The number of students in the 16 Arts Colleges (including the University School of Economics and Sociology) increased by 2,117 to 9,313 of whom 704 were women as against 534 in the preceding year, while the expenditure on all the Arts Colleges (excluding the University School) was about Rs. 20½ lakhs. Secondary schools increased by 35 to 689 and the number of

pupils in them by 5,449 to 123,578, while the expenditure was over Rs. 85½ lakhs. The number of Primary Schools for boys decreased by 61 to 13,095, but the number of pupils in them increased by 33,482 to 974,729. The total number of girls under instruction in Primary Schools for boys and girls was 262,325, an increase of 14,993. The total number of Muhammadans under instruction in recognised institutions increased by 9,537 to 235,469, of whom 53,242 were girls.

Law and Justice.—During the period under review, 25 Acts were passed by the Legislative Council and, having received the assent of their Excellencies the Governor and Governor-General, became law. The most important Acts were those which empowered the Court to sentence an offender under 16 to caning, the Act which empowered Government to recover the cost of constructing water courses from landholders, the Act which increased the rate of duty on tobacco imported into the town of Bombay and the Act which provided for the levy of a surcharge on the consumption of electrical energy. Most of the rest were amendments to existing Acts designed to remove anomalies or to remedy defects which the working of the Acts had shown to be necessary.

During 1931, the number of suits for disposal on the Original Side of the High Court was 6,026 as compared with 6,665 in 1930. The number of suits instituted in the mofussil civil courts was 168,983, an increase of 8,604 over the figures of the previous year. The largest number of suits instituted during the year was in Poona (17,200). In no other district except East Khandesh, West Khandesh, Nasik, Broach, Ahmedabad and Kaira did the institutions exceed 10,000. Of these 174,156 were disposed of. The Presidency Small Cause Court disposed of 39,678 cases, showing a decrease of 1,779 cases over the figures of last year.

On the Criminal Side, there were 221,826 offences reported during the year, an increase of 21,560 against the figures of 1930. The increase was most noticeable in the City of Bombay and in the districts of Poona, Sholapur, Ahmedabad, Surat and Kaira. The number brought to trial was 212,434. The Presidency Magistrates, including Honorary Magistrates, dealt with 102,789

cases against 89,858 in the previous year. The number of cases dealt with under Special Laws was 93,964 or 13,375 more than in the year 1930. The fines imposed and realised during the year amounted to Rs. 8,61,267 and Rs. 6,42,607 respectively. A total sum of Rs. 28,613 was paid as compensation to complainants. The aggregate number of persons under trial before the mofussil tribunals was 177,642. Of these, the cases of 1,317 were committed or referred to the Sessions and the cases of remaining 176,325 were finally disposed of by the various Tribunals. Of the persons brought to trial, 50·6 per cent. were convicted and 49·1 per cent. were acquitted or discharged. There were 3,071 persons under trial before Sessions. Of these, the cases of 2,780 were decided and 52·1 per cent. convicted.

In Sind there was a slight increase in the civil and criminal work in the year under report.

Police and Crime.—The civil disobedience movement continued to occupy the attention of the District Police during the year, though not so completely as it did in 1930. The truce arrived at under what is known as the " Irwin-Gandhi Pact " was, in fact, a period of preparation. While the more active and open hostilities of 1930 gradually ceased, the followers of Congress concentrated their energies on keeping alive the war-mentality. The scarcely concealed propaganda aimed at keeping alive the hatred of, and contempt for, Government fostered during the campaign of 1930 and the carefully concealed efforts to infect rural tracts with the Congress views imposed upon the Police a ceaseless vigil, circumscribing their activities in other directions and seriously hampering their efforts towards the prevention and detection of crime.

The outstanding feature of the year was the very pronounced decrease in reported cognizable crime—both ordinary and serious. There was an improvement in the percentage of property recovered. There was also some diminution in the number of pending and undetected cases, and an improvement in the percentage of cases ending in conviction to cases disposed of as true. There was also an increase in the number of cases sent up under Chapter VIII, Criminal Procedure Code.

The total number of cognizable and non-cognizable offences reported during the year was 123,843 as against 112,282 in 1930—a net increase of 11,561 cases under all classes.

The total number of cognizable cases dealt with by the Police *suo motu* during the year was 29,149, while those dealt with by Magistrate direct amounted to 9,747, giving a total of 38,896 as against a total of 39,848 in 1930—a decrease of 952 cases. The incidence of cognizable crime for 1931 was 1·20 per thousand of population. The Bombay Suburban District recorded the highest rate 4·04, Ahmedabad came next in order recording 2·15 and the lowest in Ratnagiri ·30. The total number of police cases for disposal was 34,548 against 35,901 in the previous year. The total number of undetected cases was 7,473 as against 8,084 in 1930—a decrease of 611 cases. The percentage of undetected cases to true cases disposed of stood at 30·89 as compared with 31·99 in 1930. The value of property stolen during 1931 in connection with cognizable cases was about Rs. 10 lakhs of which about Rs. 3 lakhs were recovered, the percentage of recovery being 38·63.

The total strength of the police was 714 officers and 17,485 men and the total cost including clerical establishment about Rs. 105 lakhs showing a decrease of nearly Rs. 5 lakhs. There was one policeman to every 4·61 square miles or 940 persons.

Bombay City Police.—Except for its first two months, the year under report (1931) was remarkably peaceful and was disturbed neither by the labour nor the communal troubles which were the features of the two years preceding the launching of the civil disobedience movement in 1930. The first two months, however, found that movement still in progress and the activities of the Congress, though considerably weakened by the arrest of leaders at the end of the previous year, continued to impose a heavy strain on the Police, thanks to the habit of disorder which the non-violent Congress had bred among the rabble of Bombay.

The total number of cognizable and non-cognizable cases reported during the year numbered 131,984 against 123,181 in 1930. The total number of cognizable cases of all classes reported to the police during the year was 90,512 against 76,822 in 1930.

Under the Indian Penal Code (Classes I to V), there were 7,568 cases against 8,031 in 1930. Dacoities decreased from 7 to 5, robberies from 125 to 98, house-breaking from 1,742 to 1,434 and theft from 3,995 to 3,782. The total number of cases of all classes remaining undetected at the end of the year under report was 3,732 against 4,220 in 1930. The percentage of non-detection worked out to 4·08 against 5·40 in 1930. There were 78 cases of murder and attempted murder including 9 cases pending from the preceding year and 3 cases of the previous years again brought on to the register, against 89 in 1930. The total number of offences under the Special and Local Laws dealt with by the police numbered 83,126 against 69,281 in 1930. The total value of property alleged to have been stolen in police cognizable cases amounted to Rs. 959,890 as compared with Rs. 8,43,691 in 1930, The total value of property recovered was Rs. 2·62 lakhs, which gives a recovery percentage of 27·27 as compared with 26·81 in 1930. The year under review was marked by increased activity on the part of the police in enforcing the laws against prostitution and gambling.

The total permanent strength of the police force at the close of the year was 4,161 and the total cost Rs. 40·31 lakhs.

Public Health.—Apart from the prevalence of cholera, the health of the Presidency as a whole compared favourably with the previous year. In spite of an increase in the deaths from cholera, there was a fall in the total death-rate for the Presidency from 29·53 to 23·82 which was due chiefly to improvement in the death-rates under the headings fevers, small-pox and plague. Respiratory diseases showed a slight decrease from 99,678 to 97,969 while there was a slight increase from 167,361 to 168,093 under all other causes. The number of deaths from dysentery and diarrhœa and injuries during the year was practically the same.

Other favourable features of the year were the lowest number of deaths from small-pox, the lowest number of deaths from plague since its importation into the Presidency, a decrease in infant mortality from 187·14 in the previous year to 161·64, an increase in the number of births from 716,952 in the previous year to 786,571, and an excess of births over deaths of 267,374

—an increase of births that is to say without a corresponding rise in the infantile death-rate which often accompanies it. The highest birth-rate was recorded in West Khandesh (47·37) and the lowest in Hyderabad (17·26). For Bombay City, the birth-rate was 23·12 or an increase of 1·32, while the death-rate was 21·43 as against 23·79 in 1930. The birth-rate exceeded the death-rate by 12·25. The infant mortality in Bombay City was 273·71 as compared with 298·33 in 1930.

Salt.—The salt with which the Bombay Presidency Salt Department has to deal with is the Baragra or Rann salt of Cutch, sea-salt made within the Presidency and imported salt, mostly from Goa.

The total production of Baragra salt, Kuda salt and sea-salt, including the balance at the commencement of the year, viz., 108·78 lakhs of maunds, amounted to 218·75 lakhs of maunds, of which 125·08 lakhs of maunds were sold. Loss and wastage amounted to 12·33 lakhs of maunds. At Kharaghoda 22·23 lakhs of maunds of salt was produced as against 27·10 lakhs of maunds in the preceding year, while the sales of Baragra salt amounted to 28·71 lakhs of maunds during the financial year, as against 25·49 lakhs of maunds in the preceding year. The total sales of sea-salt amounted to 101·96 lakhs of maunds as against 93·08 lakhs of maunds. Imports of Goa salt decreased from 2·68 lakhs of maunds to 2·27 lakhs of maunds, due to less demand from Belgaum, Dharwar and Bijapur districts in preference to Bombay sea-salt.

The average consumption per head amounted to 11·95 lbs. as against 13·91 lbs.

The revenue from salt showed an increase of Rs. 45·77 lakhs, the gross receipts being Rs. 198·17 lakhs as against 113·40 lakhs during the preceding year. The total expenditure, including refunds, amounted to Rs. 29·01 lakhs as against Rs. 34·58 lakhs in the preceding year.

During the year, attempts were made by Congress to raid the salt-works at Sanikatta and Wadala but without success.

In Sind, there was an increase of 3 lakhs of maunds in output and a decrease of 1,400 maunds in issues, the former chiefly due to over-production of salt and the latter to ordinary

fluctuations of trade. The average consumption of salt in the Province worked out at 10·11 lbs. per head per annum as against 10 lbs. in the preceding year. The gross receipts for the year rose from Rs. 6·66 lakhs to Rs. 9·16 lakhs, due principally to the excise duty on salt, while the expenditure decreased by Rs. 27,000 to Rs. 1·22 lakhs.

In Aden, the total quantity of salt removed from the Arab salt-works was 27,970 maunds, of which 20,645 maunds were retained for local consumption and the rest exported to the interior of Arabia. The gross receipts amounted to Rs. 1·55 lakhs, while the expenditure was Rs. 25,000.

Excise.—A vigorous anti-drink movement including picketing and social boycott was launched by the Congress at the beginning of the year with the object of crippling Government Revenues. The town shops in the majority of the districts were picketed and the licensees intimidated. Toddy trees were also cut down in Kanara, Dharwar, Belgaum and Satara Districts, but the effective measures taken by Government under the Ordinances brought the situation under control with the result that picketing and harassment slackened and the licensees regained confidence. The rations fixed for 1931-32 were the same as those for 1930-31. The total consumption of country spirit increased by 69,833 proof gallons to 10,35,686 proof gallons, but fell by 7,29,745 proof gallons below the allotted ration. The revenue under "toddy" amounted to Rs. 43·64 lakhs in the year under report as compared with Rs. 31·55 lakhs in the previous year. As regards consumption there have been different changes in different areas. This is attributed by the Commissioner of Excise to various causes. The total resources of the people in rural areas have fallen in proportion to the fall in prices, so has their cost of living, and so has the balance available for expenditure on liquor. Taxation and prices of liquor have not fallen much and consumption has fallen roughly in proportion to the general fall in prices.

In the towns, salaries, wages, middlemen's profits have lagged behind in readjustment and have not fallen in proportion to the general fall in prices. Cost of living on the whole has

Therefore the balance available for expenditure on luxuries has not fallen—or may even have risen (as in Poona).

The exceptional rise in consumption in Ahmedabad City, and the fall in Bombay since 1929-30 reflect the industrial conditions in these two cities. Sholapur City has risen slightly.

There are exceptional changes in some towns and districts due to local causes, e.g., the effect of the trade depression in Bombay City and indirectly in Ratnagiri, Kolaba and Thana and the specially low price of rice in the Konkan districts.

The figures for liquor alone are misleading because the reduction in resources has led in some districts to a considerable resort to toddy which as an intoxicant is less than half the price of liquor, in place of liquor.

In the districts where for a long period there has been an increasing resort to illicit sources of liquor and a continuous fall in the consumption of licit liquor—Kaira, Thana, Panch Mahals, Khandesh and Nasik—this tendency was strengthened.

The most conspicuous instance is East Khandesh where consumption had fallen in the 20 years 1913-14 to 1929-30 from 1,73,000 to 51,000 and has now further decreased to 29,000.

The revenue from intoxicating drugs amounted to Rs. 16·93 lakhs as against Rs. 14·89 lakhs, while the excise opium revenue was Rs. 23·94 lakhs against Rs. 24·99 lakhs in the previous year. An important feature of the year's administration was the reintroduction, with effect from 1st April 1931, of the sale of charas in Bombay and Ahmedabad Cities after a prohibition which had extended over a period of nine years. This resulted in an increase of revenue of nearly Rs. 2 lakhs and an almost total disappearance of cases of illicit sales, only 27 as compared with 597 in the previous year. The total number of offences against the Abkari Law detected was 8,208 against 6,583 in the preceding year. The net expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 22·66 lakhs as against Rs. 25·44 lakhs in the previous year while the net revenue increased by Rs. 34·64 lakhs to Rs. 274·29 lakhs in the year under report.

In Sind there was an all-round decrease in the imports of foreign liquors due to the high import duty and the reduced purchasing power of the consumer. The consumption of

country spirit was 72,221 proof gallons as against 66,848 proof gallons in the preceding year, and was due to the cessation of picketing by Congress volunteers and the diversion of custom from foreign liquor to country liquor owing to the high price of the former. The sales of toddy amounted to 20,973 gallons as against 17,053 gallons due to the absence of picketing of toddy shops. The total number of offences detected during the year under report was 422 under the Abkari Act and 105 under the opium laws. The total excise revenue of Sind, excluding refunds, amounted to Rs. 29·94 lakhs as against Rs. 27·51 lakhs in the previous year, while the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 2·79 lakhs as against Rs. 3·12 lakhs in the preceding year.

Taxes on Income.—General trade paralysis and dislocation in business by protracted *hartals* in important markets and centres of business activity such as the Mulji Jetha Market, the Stock Exchange, the Bullion Exchange and the Cotton Exchange together with continued depression in the cotton weaving and manufacturing industry were important factors in the unsatisfactory collections of income tax. The total collections of income tax and super tax from the textile manufacturing industry for the whole Presidency was barely Rs. 13 lakhs as against Rs. 15 lakhs and that too with an increase of almost 50 per cent. in the rate of tax. The whole of this tax except one lakh was paid by the Ahmedabad mills. The year was one of the most disappointing the Presidency had ever had. The total income assessed was Rs. 41⅔ crores (excluding incomes under Rs. 2,000) as against Rs. 50¼ crores for the preceding year.

The total net income tax collections amounted to Rs. 350·43 lakhs as against Rs. 278·30 lakhs, an increase of Rs. 72·13 lakhs due to heavy increase in the rates of taxation. The total number of assessees was 102,850 of whom 26,666 were persons earning the lowest assessable grade of income of Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 1,499 per annum. The largest number of assessees 67,397 was in Bombay City. The total income from salaries assessed to tax was Rs. 1,519¼ lakhs and the net revenue collected about Rs. 67 lakhs. Persons with incomes of Rs. 50,000 and over

numbered 401 paying Rs. 19·52 lakhs income tax on an assessed income of Rs. 148·75 lakhs.

The total net super tax collections, including arrears, were Rs. 85·85 lakhs as against Rs. 80·72 lakhs for the preceding year. The total number of assessees for the whole Presidency was 828 of whom 433 were in Bombay City. There were six private individuals whose assessable incomes to super tax amounted to over Rs. 5 lakhs per year and they paid about Rs. 7 lakhs in super tax. The number of companies paying super tax on Rs. 5 lakhs and over was 28, the amount of tax paid by them being about Rs. 25 lakhs.

Stamps.—During the year under report, the total revenue realised from the sale of judicial and non-judicial stamps including the annual contribution of Rs. 12·50 lakhs received from the Government of India on account of the Local Government's share in the sale proceeds of unified stamps used in this Presidency on receipts, promissory notes etc., amounted to Rs. 152·47 lakhs as against Rs. 146·76 lakhs during the preceding year. Of this, Rs. 72·11 lakhs were received under the Stamp Act and Rs. 80·36 lakhs under the Court Fees Act. Bombay City was responsible for a collection of Rs. 23·75 lakhs under the Court Fees Act as against Rs. 29·37 lakhs during the preceding year. The revenue realised from duties and penalties levied on insufficiently stamped or unstamped instruments amounted to Rs. 2·68 lakhs as against Rs. 3·06 lakhs during the preceding year. Bombay's share alone was Rs. 2·14 lakhs.

Forests.—The year under review was better than its predecessor though the total receipts were considerably less than those of a pre-1930 average year. The continuance of trade depression accentuated by political unrest prevented the realisation of normal revenues. Although in some divisions higher prices were obtained for the better class coupes prices for timber at the sale depots both in the Northern and Southern Circles did not show any improvement. Moreover the demand for timber was less, causing heavy accumulations of stocks in the Dangs, Dandeli and Hattikeri Depots. The sandalwood

market showed a slight improvement but prices for fuel and charcoal were very dull, particularly in the Sind Circle.

The gross revenue of the year rose by Rs. 4·50 lakhs to Rs. 56·74 lakhs but was less by Rs. 14·29 lakhs than the average of the preceding five years. The surplus showed an increase as compared with the previous year but was less than the average of the previous quinquennium by Rs. 11·92 lakhs. The increase was shared by the Northern and Central Circles but was partly counterbalanced by a decrease in the Southern and Sind Circles. Although the financial results were distinctly more favourable than in the previous year, the revenue realised was much below normal. There were, however, indications that a gradual improvement would take place. The expenditure decreased from Rs. 42·45 lakhs to Rs. 40·67 lakhs and was chiefly due to postponement of works and restricting expenditure to urgent items only and to savings effected by the 10 per cent. emergency cut in the pay of Government servants.

There was an increase by 2,693 to 22,987 in the total number of offences against Forest Laws, all the four Circles contributing thereto. The increase was partly attributed to the after-effects of the civil disobedience movement and to the economic depression of the poorer classes. The areas artificially regenerated continued to show satisfactory progress. During the year, 2,669,000 cubic feet of timber and fuel were extracted departmentally together with sandalwood worth about Rs. 1,33,000 and minor produce, grass etc. to the value of about Rs. 7,000. The total expenditure on the management of State Forests was about Rs. 15½ lakhs.

Co-operative Movement.—The policy of consolidation and rectification was continued during the year, resulting in the cancellation of weak Societies. Since registration of new Societies was allowed very sparingly and only after a thorough scrutiny as regards the possibility of successful working, the total number of Societies in the Presidency showed a decrease of 18. The working capital, however, increased by Rs. 51 lakhs and the Reserve Fund by Rs. 6·8 lakhs.

On the whole, but for the alarming increase in overdues, the general situation was satisfactory.

The Provincial Co-operative Bank continued to be the best managed institution in the Presidency. The District Banks had to face critical times on account of the unsatisfactory agricultural season and the phenomenal fall in the prices of agricultural commodities which seriously affected the repaying capacity of the borrower. The number of full-fledged Urban Banks with a working capital of over Rs. 50,000 increased from 82 to 91.

The Bombay Provincial Co-operative Insurance Society continued to do good business. It issued 288 policies, assuring the sum of over Rs. 2 lakhs.

The attitude of the public continued to be friendly. Politics are on the whole kept out of the Movement and nothing happened to shake the confidence of the general public in the stability of the Co-operative Institutions.

Public Works.—The Lloyd Barrage and Canals Scheme in Sind was completed and the opening ceremony was performed by His Excellency the Viceroy on the 13th January 1932. The banks of the canals were soaked and tested and the few breaches which occurred were promptly closed. Irrigation from the new canals commenced from the kharif season of 1932.

Work was continued on improvements to the Fuleli Canal system and the Kalri Remodelling Project.

In the Deccan, work was continued on the Nira Right Bank Canal Project and the remodelling of the old Nira Left Bank canal.

Bombay Development Schemes.—The Back Bay Reclamation Sub-Division was amalgamated with the "A" Sub-division of the Presidency Division with effect from the 1st November 1931. The Salsette and Ambernath water supply Sub-division of the Thana Division was abolished and the work pertaining to it transferred to the Public Health Branch with effect from the 1st November 1931.

Back Bay Reclamation Scheme.—No materials for filling were brought during the year by trains. About 18 acres of the recreation ground in block No. 1 were turfed and grassed. The work of dry filling in block No. 2 was completed during the year. Building debris and other suitable dry filling materials

aggregating about 55,000 c. ft., which were offered free at certain accessible points, were deposited in block No. 7 and the construction of the parapet wall along the sea wall in blocks 1 and 2 to a length of 6,308 R. ft. was completed at a cost of Rs. 1·44 lakhs.

The work of preparing a landing ground at Juhu which was commenced during 1930 on behalf of the Government of India is in progress. The original estimate amounting to Rs. 8·57 lakhs sanctioned for the work was reduced to Rs. 6·07 lakhs.

Industrial Housing Scheme.—There was a gradual increase in the occupancies of the chawls as well as in the rent recoveries. Out of 207 chawls with 16,208 rooms, 130 with 8,580 rooms were occupied at the close of the year, recording an occupancy percentage of 51 for rooms as against 47 in the previous year. The rent collections amounted to Rs. 6·98 lakhs against an assessment of Rs. 6·96 lakhs, recording a recovery percentage of 100·3. The total amount due from absconders was Rs. 13,163 as against Rs. 24,848 in the previous year. The amount recovered was Rs. 3,266.

Residential and Industrial Suburban Schemes.—During the year 1931–32, 67,752 sq. yds. of land valued at Rs. 2,04,052 were disposed of in the various suburban residential schemes against 3,10,575 sq. yds. worth Rs. 4,02,717 sold in the previous year. In Khar, which continues to be a popular scheme, 20,498 sq. yds. were sold against 24,896 last year. There are in all 340 completed buildings in this scheme with five more under construction. In the Andheri sector of Sahar 33,630 sq. yds. were sold.

The total expenditure on the residential schemes was Rs. 13,159.

During the year Rs. 3,18,531 were advanced for building purposes under the State-aided scheme.

PART II

CHAPTER I

INDIAN STATES

THE territories under the rule of Indian Princes and Chiefs in political relations with the Government of Bombay extend over an area of 28,562 square miles, or less than one-fourth of the entire area of the Presidency. The variety of the relations which, under the terms of the several treaties, subsist between the British Government and the rulers of the different States and position and responsibilities of Government as Paramount Power, necessitate the presence of an Agent or representative at or in touch with the principal Darbars. The smaller and less important States are either grouped together under the general supervision of a Political Agent or are looked after by the Collectors of the districts within the local limits of which they may happen to be situated. The position of the Agent varies, roughly speaking, with the importance of the State. In some cases he does little more than give advice and exercise a general surveillance. In other cases Agents are invested with a direct share in the administration; in such cases a considerable amount of judicial work devolves on the Governor in Council, in criminal cases as a Court of Reference and Appeal, and in civil matters as a Court of Appeal. The States in which the Ruler is a minor are directly managed by Government Officers or under arrangements approved by Government.

The Gujarat States fall into two groups. The North Gujarat States lie mostly to the North of the Narbada and include the Rewa Kantha, Mahi Kantha and Kaira Agencies. The South Gujarat States, which lie to the south of the Tapti, are those in the Surat Agency.

The Maratha States fall into four groups. The North and South Konkan groups lie below the ghats to the north and south of Bombay, respectively. The Deccan and the Southern Maratha Country States are situated in the central and southern portions of the Bombay Deccan. The province of Sind contains one State. The Settlement of Aden, including Perim, which was administered by the Government of Bombay, was taken over by the Government of India under their direct control with effect from the 1st April 1932.

The population of these States is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ millions and their revenue nearly five crores.

I. North Gujarat

1. MAHI KANTHA

Ruling Prince with a salute of 15 guns—

His Highness Maharaja Shri Himatsinhji, Maharaja of Idar; *Residence*—Himatnagar; *Caste*—Rathod Rajput, Hindu; *Age*—32; *Educated*—Mayo College, Ajmere; *Has male heir.*

Ruling Prince with a salute of 9 guns—

Maharana Shri Bhavanisinhji Hamirsinhji, Maharana of Danta; *Residence*—Danta; *Caste*—Parmar Rajput, Hindu; *Age*—32; *Has no male heir.*

The Rao of Vijayanagar (Mahi Kantha)—

Rao Shri Hamirsinhji, Rao of Vijayanagar (Mahi Kantha); *Residence*—Vijayanagar (Mahi Kantha); *Caste*—Rathod Rajput, Hindu; *Age*—28; *Educated*—Scott College, Sadra, and the Mayo College, Ajmere.

Area—3,124 square miles; *Population (1931)*—518,938; *Gross revenue based on five years' average*—Rs. 30¼ lakhs; *Tribute to His Highness the Gaikwar of Baroda by Idar*—Rs. 30,340; *by small States and Talukas*—Rs. 91,328; *Principal articles of production*—Wheat, gram, cotton, bajri, jowar and all common grains, marble and steatite.

In addition to these three States, the Agency includes 48 small States and Talukas.

The rainfall was satisfactory throughout the Agency. The supply of water and fodder was sufficient. The outturn of monsoon and winter crops varied from 10 to 12 annas.

The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 26 lakhs, the principal items being Police Rs. 3 lakhs (the total strength of the Police in the Agency being 1,204); Prisons Rs. 15,000; Public Works Rs. 88,000; and Medical Relief Rs. 35,000.

The total number of schools was 218 with 16,823 pupils. The expenditure was Rs. 1,48,800.

2. REWA KANTHA

Ruling Prince with a salute of 13 guns—

Captain (now Major) His Highness Maharana Shri Sir Vijayasinhji Chhatrasinhji, K.C.S.I., Maharaja of Rajpipla; *Residence*—Nandod (Rajpipla); *Caste*—Gohel Rajput, Hindu; *Age*—42; *Educated*—Rajkumar College, Rajkot, and Imperial Cadet Corps, Dehra Dun; *Has male heir.*

Ruling Princes with a salute of 9 guns—

Maharaval Shri Natwarsinhji Fatesinhji, Raja of Chhota Udepur ; *Residence*—Chhota Udepur ; *Caste*—Chavan Rajput, Hindu ; *Age*—25 ; *Educated*—Rajkumar College, Rajkot.

Major His Highness Maharaval Shri Sir Ranjitsinhji Mansinhji, K.C.S.I., Raja of Baria ; His Highness has a personal salute of 11 guns ; *Residence*—Baria ; *Caste*—Khichi-Chavan Rajput, Hindu ; *Age*—46 ; *Educated*—Rajkumar College, Rajkot, Imperial Cadet Corps, Dehra Dun, and England ; *Has male heir.*

Maharana Shri Virbhadrasinhji Ranjitsinhji, Raja of Lunavada ; *Residence*—Lunavada ; *Caste*—Solanki Rajput, Hindu ; *Age*—22 ; *Educated*—Mayo College, Ajmere.

Nawab Babi Shri Jamiatkhan Manvarkhan, Nawab of Balasinor ; *Residence*—Balasinor ; *Tribe and religion*—Babi Pathan, Suni Musulman ; *Age*—38 ; *Educated*—Rajkumar College, Rajkot, and Imperial Cadet Corps, Dehra Dun ; *Has no heir.*

Maharana Shri Jorawarsinhji Pratapsinhji, Raja of Sant ; *Residence*—Sant ; *Caste*—Parmar Rajput, Hindu ; *Age*—51 ; *Educated*—Rajkumar College, Rajkot ; *Has male heir.*

Area—4,956 square miles ; *Population (1931)*—887,966 ; *Gross revenue based on five years' average*—Rs. 75 lakhs ; *Tribute to His Highness the Gaikwar of Baroda*—Rs. 1,30,801 ; *Tribute to British Government*—Rs. 24,382 ; *Military Force*—1,650 ; *Principal articles of production*—Rice, wheat, bajri, jowar, cotton, maize, gram, mhowra (flower and seed) and timber ; Akik (cornelian) stone in Rajpipla and Manganese in Chhota Udepur.

Excessive rain caused damage to maize, cotton and paddy in Chhota Udepur and Sant States, while the outturn of crops in Bhadarwa State was reduced by ¼ of the normal yield owing to scarcity of late rains. The agriculturists did not realise the expected value of their crops owing to low price of corn due to general trade depression.

The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 84 lakhs.

The total number of schools was 77 and the number of pupils 3,290.

3. CAMBAY

(KAIRA AGENCY)

Ruling Prince with a salute of 11 guns—

His Highness Nawab Mirza Hussain Yavar Khan Saheb Bahadur, Nawab of Cambay ; *Tribe and religion*—Moghal, Shia Musulman ; *Age*—21 ; *Educated*—Rajkumar College, Rajkot.

Area—392 square miles ; *Population (1931)*—87,761 ; *Gross revenue based on five years' average*—Rs. 9½ lakhs ; *Tribute to British Government*—Rs. 21,924 ; *Military Force*—164 ; *Principal articles of production*—Jowari, bajri, kodra, rice, wheat, cotton, pulses, oil-seeds and tobacco ; *Manufactures*—Cotton and silk cloths, carpets, matches and articles of agate and cornelian stone.

The rain received during the year was satisfactory as compared with the average. The yield of paddy was however far from satisfactory on account of the absence of later rain. The outturn of the tobacco crop was fairly good, but wheat did not give a satisfactory yield.

The total expenditure amounted to nearly Rs. 11 lakhs, the principal items being Police Rs. 64,000 (the total strength of the Police being 213) ; Prisons Rs. 6,000 ; Public Works Rs. 1,49,000 ; and Medical Relief Rs. 26,000.

The total number of schools was 65 with an average attendance of 4,458. The expenditure on education was Rs. 88,000. Primary education continued to be completely free throughout the State. It is made compulsory in all village boys' schools including one school for depressed classes in the town.

II. South Gujarat

(SURAT AGENCY)

1. DHARAMPUR, BANSDA AND SACHIN

Ruling Princes with a salute of 9 guns—

His Highness Maharana Shri Vijayadevji Mohandevji, Raja of Dharampur ; His Highness has a personal salute of 11 guns ; *Residence*—Dharampur ; *Caste*—Sisodia Rajput, Hindu ; *Age*—48 ; *Educated*—Rajkumar College, Rajkot ; *Has male heir.*

Maharaval Shri Indrasinhji Pratapsinhji, Raja of Bansda ; *Residence*—Bansda ; *Caste*—Solanki Rajput, Hindu ; *Age*—45 ; *Educated*—Rajkumar College, Rajkot ; *Has male heir.*

Nawab Sidi Muhammad Haider Muhammad Yakut Khan, Mubarizud Daula Nasrat Jang Bahadur, Nawab of Sachin. *Residence*—Sachin ; *Religion*—Sunni Musulman ; *Age*—23 ; *Educated*—Rajkumar College, Rajkot ; *Has male heir.*

Area—968 square miles ; Population *(1931)*—182,977 ; *Gross revenue based on five years' average*—Rs. 20 lakhs ; *Tribute to British Government*—Rs. 9,154 ; *Principal articles of production*—Rice, pulses, timber, grass, jowar, wheat, cotton, bajri and sugarcane.

At Dharampur the estimate of crops was 12 annas in the rupee. The rainfall at Bansda and Sachin being timely and well distributed the general outturn of crops was fairly good.

The total expenditure was nearly Rs. 20 lakhs, the principal items being Police Rs. 74,000 (the total strength of the Police force being 435); Prisons Rs. 5,000; Public Works Rs. 1¼ lakhs and Medical Relief Rs. 68,500.

The total number of schools was 73, the number of pupils 5,532 and the expenditure Rs. 96,000.

2. THE DANGS

Area—990 square miles; *Population (1931)*—33,748; *Gross revenue including the subsidy of the Dangs Rajas*—Rs. 43,152.

A wild tract thickly covered with forest. The inhabitants belong almost entirely to the forest tribes, mostly Bhils. There was an increase in the total area under cultivation due to continuous, regular and timely rains. With the exception of a little rice and pulse, the crops are confined to the inferior varieties of mountain grains.

The principal item of expenditure was Public Works Rs. 6,000. As regards education, the average number of pupils on the roll was 230 with an average attendance of 154.

III. North Konkan

1. JAWHAR (THANA AGENCY)

Ruling Prince with a salute of 9 guns—

Raja Saheb Shrimant Yeshwantrao *alias* Dada Saheb; *Caste*—Koli; *Age*—14 years. The State is under administration owing to the Raja's minority.

Area—308 square miles; *Population (1931)*—57,261; *Gross revenue based on five years' average*—Rs. 5,41,009; *Principal articles of production*—Rice, nagli, pulses, charcoal and timber.

The inhabitants of the State are mainly Kolis, Thakurs, Varlis and Kathodies. These people are very backward and illiterate but loyal and law-abiding. Attempts are being made to improve their conditions by the spread of education. A weaving class has been started and instruction in weaving and carpentry is being given to boys under a trained teacher.

The year under report was one of contentment though not of prosperity. The outturn of crops was satisfactory, but the unprecedented fall in prices of agricultural products caused some financial embarrassment to the people.

The total expenditure amounted to about Rs. 3·10 lakhs, the principal items being Police Rs. 14,000 (the total strength of the Police force being 70); Prisons Rs. 1,075; Public Works Rs. 22,000; and Medical Relief Rs. 7,500.

The total number of schools was 33 with a daily average attendance of 1,063. The expenditure on education was Rs. 22,000.

2. SURGANA (NASIK AGENCY)

Ruling Chief—Yeshwantrao Prataprao Deshmukh; *Residence*—Surgana; *Caste*—Maratha (Pawar), Hindu; *Age*—30; *Has male heir.*

Area—360 square miles; *Population (1931)*—15,258; *Gross revenue based on five years' average*—Rs. 1·20 lakhs; *Principal articles of production*—Rice, nagli and timber.

The State contains 61 villages, of which 46 are Khalsa and 15 alienated.

The population consists chiefly of peaceful and law-abiding Konkani Kunbis and Kolis whose chief occupation is agriculture carried on in the most primitive fashion.

The rainfall was fairly distributed and the crops were good. The condition of the cattle was fair and fodder and drinking water supply were normal. Cattle diseases were prevalent towards the beginning of the monsoon and they took rather a heavy toll.

The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 84,000.

There are six vernacular primary schools in the State. Attempts are being made to popularize education which is absolutely free. The boys are also supplied with books, slates, etc.

IV. South Konkan

1. JANJIRA (KOLABA AGENCY)

Ruling Prince with a salute of 11 guns and, within State limits, of 13 guns—

His Highness Nawab Sidi Muhammad Khan Sidi Ahmed Khan, Nawab of Janjira; *Residence*—Murud, Janjira; *Tribe and religion*—Habshi, Sunni Musulman; *Age*—18; *Educated*—Rajkumar College, Rajkot. During the Nawab's minority the State with the dependency of Jafrabad is being administered by his mother as Regent assisted by the State Dewan.

Area—377 square miles; *Population (1931)*—110,366; *Gross revenue based on five years' average*—Rs. 8,87,258; *Military*

force—243 ; *Articles of production*—Rice, nagli, vari, cocoanut, betelnut, bajri, jowari, cotton, hemp and sesamum.

The total rainfall in Janjira was abnormal. In Jafrabad, it was on the whole sufficient and fairly seasonable except in the month of September when the bajri and jowar crops were damaged to some extent by stormy rains. The average outturn ranged from 8 to 11 annas in Janjira and from 8 to 12 annas in Jafrabad.

The State had an import trade worth nearly Rs. 17 lakhs and an export trade of Rs. 12 lakhs. The abkari and forest revenue was nearly Rs. 2 lakhs. Customs revenue amounted to Rs. 1·20 lakhs.

The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 9·20 lakhs, the principal items being Police Rs. 39,500 (the total strength of the Police force being 156) ; Prisons Rs. 2,000 ; Public Works Rs. 1¾ lakhs ; and Medical Relief Rs. 28,000.

The total number of schools was 98. The expenditure on education was Rs. 60,000.

There is an Anjuman-i-Islam Institution at Murud supported from popular subscription for encouraging and spreading education in the Muhammadan community.

2. SAVANTVADI (BELGAUM AGENCY)

Ruling Prince with a salute of 9 guns and, within State limits, of 11 guns—

Captain His Highness Raje Bahadur Shrimant Khem Savant *alias* Bapu Saheb Bhonsle, Raja of Savantvadi ; *Residence*—Savantvadi ; *Caste*—Maratha, Hindu ; *Age*—34.

Area—925 square miles ; *Population (1931)*—230,589 ; *Gross revenue based on five years' average*—Rs. 6,53,640 ; *Principal articles of production*—Rice, nachni, vari and cocoanuts ; *Manufactures*—Khaskhas, gold-thread and beetle-wing embroidery, horn works, toys and other lacquered wares, etc.

The rainfall was timely and sufficient during the year. The drinking water supply was adequate, but in the town of Savantvadi a scarcity of water was felt during the two months of April and May owing to the insufficient flow of water from the Kesari head cistern. The outturn of rice and nachni was annas 12 each. The agricultural stock was sufficient and good.

The total expenditure amounted to nearly Rs. 5·80 lakhs, the principal items being Police Rs. 77,000 (the total strength of the Police force being 343) ; Prisons Rs. 2,000 ; Public Works Rs. 71,000 ; and Medical Relief Rs. 26,000.

The total number of schools was 155 with 9,286 pupils. The expenditure on education was Rs. 74,000.

V. The Deccan

SATARA JAGHIRS

(SATARA AGENCY)

Ruling Chiefs—

Shrimant Bhavanrao Shriniwasrao *alias* Bala Saheb, Pant Pratinidhi ; *Residence*—Aundh ; *Caste*—Deshastha Brahman, Hindu ; *Age*—63 ; *Educated*—Bombay University ; *Has male heirs.*

Captain Meherban Malojirao Mudhojirao *alias* Nana Saheb Naik Nimbalkar ; *Residence*—Phaltan ; *Caste*—Maratha, Hindu ; *Age*—35 ; *Educated*—Rajkumar College, Rajkot ; *Has male heir.*

(POONA AGENCY)

Ruling Prince with a salute of 9 guns—

Meherban Shrimant Raghunathrao Shankarrao Pandit, Pant Sachiv, Chief of Bhor ; *Residence*—Bhor ; *Caste*—Deshastha Brahman, Hindu ; *Age*—53 ; *Educated* privately ; *Has male heirs.*

(SHOLAPUR AGENCY)

Meherban Shrimant Vijayasinh Fatehsinh, Raje Bhonsle ; *Residence*—Akalkot ; *Caste*—Maratha, Hindu ; *Age*—16 ; *Educated*—Rajkumar College, Rajkot. The administration of the State is carried on by the Regent Rani Saheb assisted by a council owing to Raje Saheb's minority.

(BIJAPUR AGENCY)

Meherban Vijayasinh Ramrao *alias* Baba Saheb Daphle ; *Residence*—Jath ; *Caste*—Maratha, Hindu ; *Age*—23 ; *Educated*—Deccan College, Poona.

Area—3,301 square miles ; *Population (1931)*—460,562 ; *Gross revenue based on five years' average*—Rs. 25,17,000 ; *Tribute to British Government*—Rs. 45,500.

Rainfall was generally seasonable in all parts of the State. The kharif and rabi crops were on the whole good but the prices of food grains showed a considerable decline. The supply of drinking water and fodder was sufficient.

The total expenditure amounted to about Rs. 25 lakhs, the principal items being Police Rs. 1 lakh (the total strength of the Police force being 614) ; Prisons Rs. 17,000 ; Public Works about Rs. 3 lakhs ; and Medical Relief Rs. 30,000.

The number of schools was 270 and the number of pupils 15,907. The expenditure on education was nearly Rs. 1¾ lakhs.

VI. Kolhapur and Southern Maratha Country States

1. KOLHAPUR

Ruling Prince with a salute of 19 guns—

His Highness Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Shri Rajaram Chhatrapati Maharaj, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., Maharaja of Kolhapur; *Residence*—Kolhapur; *Caste*—Kshatriya, Maratha, Hindu; *Age*—35; *Educated* in England and Ewing College, Allahabad.

Area—3,217 square miles; *Population* (*1931*)—957,137; *Gross revenue based on five years' average*—Rs. 127 lakhs; *Military force*—704; *Principal articles of production*—Jowari, rice, cotton, tobacco, sugarcane, groundnuts, etc.; *Manufactures*—Coarse cotton and woollen cloths, pottery and hardware.

The rains were well distributed over all parts of the State. The harvest was good. Supply of drinking water and fodder was sufficient.

The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 63·55 lakhs, the principal items being Police Rs. 1·94 lakhs (the total strength of the Police force being 1,128); Prisons Rs. 30,000; Public Works over Rs. 6½ lakhs; and Medical Relief Rs. 88,500.

The total number of schools was 806, the number of pupils 47,148 and the expenditure Rs. 5¼ lakhs.

2. SOUTHERN MARATHA COUNTRY STATES

The Southern Maratha Country States consist of the Mudhol, Sangli, Jamkhandi, Miraj (Senior), Miraj (Junior), Kurundwad (Senior), Kurundwad (Junior), Wadi and Ramdurg States. The Rulers of the two States who have salutes of 9 guns are :—

1. *Mudhol.*—Lieutenant Meherban Raja Sir Malojirao Venkatrao Raje Ghorpade *alias* Nana Saheb, K.C.I.E., Raja of Mudhol; *Caste*—Maratha, Hindu; *Age*—48.
2. *Sangli.*—Lieutenant His Highness Sir Chintamanrao Dhundirao *alias* Appa Saheb Patwardhan, K.C.I.E., Raja of Sangli. His Highness has a personal salute of 11 guns; *Caste*—Konkanasth Brahman, Hindu; *Age*—43.

Area—3,044 square miles; *Population* (*1931*)—691,372; *Tribute to British Government*—Rs. 1,87,754; *Gross revenue based on five years' average*—Rs. 48,90,940.

The average rainfall was above normal. The yield of the kharif and rabi crops was on the whole fair. Fodder was sufficient. Water supply was adequate.

The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 71·67 lakhs, the principal items being Police Rs. 3 lakhs (the total strength of the

Police force being 1,072); Prisons Rs. 33,000; Public Works Rs. 5⅓ lakhs; and Medical Relief Rs. 1 lakh.

The total number of schools was 473 with a daily attendance of 25,691. The expenditure on education was Rs. 3½ lakhs.

3. SAVANUR (DHARWAR AGENCY)

Ruling Chief—Major Meherban Abdul Majidkhan Dilerjang Bahadur, Nawab of Savanur; *Residence*—Savanur (Dharwar); *Tribe and religion*—Pathan Musulman; *Age*—41; *Has male heir.*

Area—70 square miles; *Population (1931)*—20,413; *Gross revenue based on five years' average*—Rs. 2,16,600; *Principal articles of production*—Sadis, cholis and country blankets.

The rainfall was less than normal and the harvest was moderate. Jowari and paddy crops were good but the yield of cotton crop was not so satisfactory owing to untimely rains.

The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 1⅓ lakhs, the principal items being Public Works Rs. 31,000; and Medical Relief Rs. 3,300.

The total number of schools was 15, the number of pupils 1,189 and the expenditure Rs. 14,400.

VII. Sind

KHAIRPUR (SUKKUR AGENCY)

Ruling Prince with a salute of 15 guns and, within State limits, of 17 guns—

His Highness Mir Ali Nawaz Khan Talpur, Mir of Khairpur; *Residence*—Kot-Diji; *Tribe and religion*—Talpur, Baluch, Musulman; *Age*—48; *Educated*—Aitchison Chiefs' College, Lahore; *Has male heir.*

Area—6,050 square miles; *Population (1931)*—227,183; *Gross revenue based on five years' average*—Rs. 20·40 lakhs; *Military force according to the reorganisation scheme*—280; *Principal articles of production*—Fuller's earth, carbonate of soda, cotton, wool, ghee, hides, tobacco and indigo; *Manufactures*—Cloth, leather, cutlery, cotton, silk and woollen goods, ivory, metal and lacquer wood works, glazed pottery and carpets.

The total area under cultivation was nearly 189,277 acres. Expenditure amounted to Rs. 17·23 lakhs, the principal items being Police Rs. 96,000 (the strength of the Police force being 322); Prisons Rs. 19,000; Public Works Rs. 5·11 lakhs; and Medical Relief Rs. 32,000.

The number of schools was 132, with an average daily attendance of 5,760.

Condition of the People

The general economic and financial condition of the State people was on the whole satisfactory and the people were contented. The rainfall being seasonable and well distributed, the yield of Kharif and Rabi crops was abundant. Cotton crop suffered a little in some parts owing to the absence of late rains. The condition of the agriculturists was, however, far from satisfactory owing to the world trade depression and fall in prices of agricultural products. The supply of drinking water and fodder was sufficient and the general health of the people was good.

CHAPTER II

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND

LAND RECORDS

THE functions of the Land Records Department are to provide the statistics necessary for sound administration in all matters connected with the land, to reduce, simplify and cheapen litigation in the Revenue and Civil Courts, to provide a Record of Rights for the protection of all who hold interests in land and lastly to simplify and cheapen periodical settlement operations. Survey and classification of land, and a full record maintained not spasmodically but every day as every change occurs, is indispensable for the assessment and collection of land revenue. This is a task which is never completed. It extends to the cities as well as the countryside and forests. Uninteresting and tedious as much of its work must be, nevertheless, the work of the Land Records Department lies as the woof and warp underneath all the elaborate material of which Provincial Administration is composed.

The main function of the Department is to maintain all survey and classification records up to date and for this purpose to carry out field operations preliminary to the incorporation of changes in these records. It has further to organise and carry out rural and city surveys on an extensive scale and maintain them in a state of usefulness. Special surveys for private individuals or bodies such as relate to Inam villages, surveys in connexion with Railway or Municipal or Local Board projects etc., and surveys on behalf of other Departments of Government and sometimes even Native States are also ordinarily undertaken. The supervision of the preparation and the maintenance of the Record of Rights, the periodical inspection of boundary marks and the introduction of Revenue settlements complete the function of the Department.

An important innovation by this Department was the introduction of the new combined V.F. VII and XII forms which give statistics about rents, tenancies, etc., and provide the data for the preparation of Electoral Rolls.

Under the orders of Government the office of the Settlement Commissioner and Director of Land Records has since the end of March 1932 been held in abeyance partly on account of the

present financial emergency but chiefly because all revision settlement work has been put off till the Land Revenue Code is amended. The Senior Superintendent of Land Records, Central Division, has been entrusted with the work of that office except the Establishment compilation which has been transferred to the Commissioner, Southern Division, and the work in connection with the Photozinco Office and the Consulting Surveyor to Government which has been transferred to the Commissioner, Central Division. The Registration Department which was also under the control of the Director of Land Records as Inspector-General of Registration has been placed under the control of the Excise Commissioner. The Land Records staff consists of one Senior Superintendent of Land Records and three Superintendents as well as District Inspectors, Cadastral Surveyors and Circle Inspectors. The function of the Senior Superintendent has been limited to advise on technical matters and general administration of the Department so as to secure uniformity in the whole Presidency.

The staff of the Department is divided into three sections—

(*a*) the district staff of Circle Inspectors under the Collectors.

(*b*) the cadastral survey staff (including city survey staff) under the Department of Land Records, and

(*c*) staff in District Survey offices, who keep all the survey records up to date.

The Superintendents and the District Inspectors of Land Records supervise all the three sections, but in respect of (*a*) their function is rather to advise and assist while the actual orders are given by the Revenue Officers. As to (*b*) and (*c*) the administration is direct.

A complete record of rights and interests in lands has been prepared for all unalienated and many alienated villages throughout the Presidency and steps are being taken to prepare it for the remaining alienated villages also. The record has proved of very great value to the Land Revenue Administration and to the public at large who are not slow in realizing its importance as an authentic record of their titles.

City surveys form an important part of land records. Such surveys have now been introduced in Bombay City and in most of the important cities and towns in the Presidency. Arrangements have also been made for the maintenance of city survey records.

GUJARAT TALUKDARS ACT

Under the provisions of various Acts including the Gujarat Talukdars Act, the Court of Wards Act, the Guardians and Wards Act, etc., Government are empowered to take over the management of estates whose owners, by reason of minority, incapacity, etc., are not considered capable of looking after them. A large number of these is in the Ahmedabad district where in all there are seven estates managed by the Collector who is also Talukdari Settlement Officer.

The revenue demand for the year including past arrears was Rs. 8·06 lakhs, out of which Rs. 5 lakhs were recovered. The total rental demand of the estates under management including arrears of past years was Rs. 4,500 out of which about Rs. 3,500 were collected.

There were 17 sons of Talukdars receiving education at the Talukdari Hostel at Dhandhuka at the close of the year as against 15 last year.

Two estates were released from management during the year. Efforts are being made to withdraw management from other estates and to ensure that Talukdars have the same facilities for credit as other landowners.

SIND INCUMBERED ESTATES ACT

The Sind Incumbered Estates Act of 1881 was passed by the Government of India in order to amend the law providing for the relief of Jagirdars and Zamindars in Sind and this Act was further amended in 1896. The management of such estates is undertaken upon an application by the landholder and a Special Officer designated "Manager, Sind Incumbered Estates," has been appointed to supervise the management of these estates under the control of the Commissioner in Sind. The estates are leased to outsiders or to the estate owners, but generally to the latter whenever this is possible.

Seventy-three new estates were taken under management and 12 were released, leaving 275 under management at the close of the year as against 214 last year. The revenue was about Rs. 8 lakhs and the cost of management decreased from 8·64 per cent. to 7·91 per cent.

THE COURT OF WARDS ACT

The Bombay Court of Wards Act was passed in 1905. Under this Act the Commissioners of Divisions are the Courts of Wards for the limits of their Divisions. With the sanction of

Government, they assume superintendence of estates of landholders who, on account of minority or physical or mental defects or infirmity, are not qualified to manage their property and also on application by the landholders of estates that are heavily indebted. Arrangements are also made for the education of minor wards.

DEPARTMENT OF LAND RECORDS

The ordinary work of the Department was carried on during the year, particularly routine measurement work in all the Divisions of the Presidency. A temporary staff was employed on various measurement works in several districts of the Central Division. Several parties were employed on revision survey work, while in the Central Division the recess work of 18 villages connected with the introduction of a settlement was completed.

No revision settlements were undertaken during the year.

WASTE LANDS

Practically all the waste in Sind is only cultivable if water is available.

In the Presidency proper the cultivable waste consists partly of unassessed lands and partly of assessed lands. Practically the whole area is unprofitable to cultivate. It tends to vary slightly, falling as prices rise and increasing when prices fall. The cultivable waste is used for grazing purposes. Where there are no forests, it is frequently impracticable to give the waste lands out for cultivation on account of the grazing requirements of the locality. Grazing fees are paid for the privilege of grazing on uncultivable waste.

The following table shows the area under cultivation in the Province :—

1931–32

(In thousands of acres)

Division.	Total cultivable area.	Occupied	Balance cultivable waste.
Northern	4,915	4,469	446
Central	14,449	14,028	421
Southern	7,861	7,646	215
Sind	14,625	8,272	6,353
Bombay Suburban	39	23	16

CHAPTER III

LAW AND JUSTICE

THE power of making laws "for the peace and good government of the Bombay Presidency" is vested in the Legislative Council of the Governor of Bombay. It consists of 114 members. The four members of the Executive Council are ex-officio members, and of the remaining 110, 86 are elected and 24 nominated. Of the nominated members not more than 16 may be officials. The elected members are elected as follows :—

	Members.
General constituencies—	
Muhammadan Rural	22
Muhammadan Urban	5
Non-Muhammadan Rural	35
Non-Muhammadan Urban	11
European	2
Special constituencies—	
Land-holders	3
Commerce and Industry	7
Bombay University	1
Total ..	86

Of the members of the non-Muhammadan constituencies seven must be Mahrattas.

All British subjects of either sex who are over the age of 21 years and possess the necessary property qualification are, subject to certain minor exceptions, entitled to vote in general constituencies. The Government of Bombay has also power to permit subjects of Indian States to be enrolled as electors. The property qualification is fixed by Rules under the Government of India Act and is based, in the case of land, upon the amount of land revenue, and in the case of houses upon the annual rental ; in each case tenants as well as landholders are qualified to vote. Besides these, all income-tax payers and all retired soldiers of His Majesty's regular forces are enfranchised by the same Rules. A general election ordinarily takes place every three years. Before taking his seat every member must make an oath or affirmation of his allegiance to the Crown.

Legislative.—The extent of the power of the Council to make laws is defined by section 80-A of the Government of India Act. Generally it may make laws for the peace and good government of the territories constituting the Presidency of Bombay, but certain bills cannot be introduced without the previous sanction of the Governor-General. The most important of these are—

(*a*) Bills imposing new taxes, except certain taxes specified in Rules made under the Act such as taxes on non-agricultural land and on amusements, succession duties and judicial stamp duties ;

(*b*) Bills affecting the public debt of India or any taxes, the proceeds of which go to the Government of India ;

(*c*) Bills affecting the navy, army or air force ;

(*d*) Bills affecting the relations of Government with foreign princes or States ;

(*e*) Bills regulating a " central " subject.

Central subjects are subjects of vital importance or subjects on which it is desirable that policy should be uniform throughout India. Some of the most important are external relations, defence of India, shipping, railways, posts and telegraphs, currency, civil and criminal law, commerce, all sources of all-India revenue and the all-India services. Again under section 80-C of the Government of India Act, a bill affecting the public revenues of the province of Bombay or imposing any charge upon them, cannot be introduced without the previous sanction of the Governor.

RESOLUTIONS AND QUESTIONS

After non-official bills and motions to amend Standing Orders have been disposed of, any member may during the remaining time allotted to non-official business move a resolution on a matter of general public interest. Fifteen clear days' notice of such resolution must be given before the date appointed for the session of the Council.

Every resolution must be in the form of a specific recommendation to Government. The Governor may within the period of notice disallow a resolution or any part of a resolution on the ground that it cannot be moved without detriment to the public interest or that it relates to a matter which is not primarily the concern of the Local Government.

No resolution can be moved on any matter which affects the relations of Government with any foreign or Indian State, or relates to the internal administration of any Indian State, or which is *sub judice.*

Questions for the purpose of obtaining information on a matter of public concern may be asked provided that 10 clear days' notice of the question is given. A question may be disallowed on any of the grounds on which a resolution on the subject might have been disallowed, and also on certain other grounds of which the most important are that it must not be in substance a suggestion for any particular action, nor ask for an expression of opinion.

COURSE OF LEGISLATION

Acts passed.—In the period between the 1st of April 1931 and the 31st of March 1932, twenty-five Acts were passed by the Legislative Council of the Governor of Bombay and, having received the assent of their Excellencies the Governor and Governor-General, became law.

The Acts were as follows :—

(1) *Act III of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Bombay Prevention of Gambling Act,* 1887) was passed with the object of securing the re-introduction of a limited number of book-makers on the Race-Course under the jurisdiction of the Western India Turf Club, and thereby to suppress, if not entirely, at any rate to a very material extent, the enormous volume of betting which passed through illegal betting offices known as " Bucket Shops".

(2) *Act IV of* 1931 (*An Act to amend the Bombay Totalizator Betting Tax Act,* 1925, *and the Bombay Race-Course Licensing Act,* 1912) was required in consequence of Act III of 1931 permitting the licensing of book-makers. The intention of the Bombay Totalizator Betting Tax Act, 1925, was to tax all betting permissible under the law. As the law, as contained in Act III of 1931, proposed to permit betting with licensed book-makers also, this Act was required to enable the tax to be recovered on account of such betting.

(3) *Act V of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Cattle Trespass Act,* 1871, *in its application to the Presidency of Bombay*) empowered the officer authorised to sell unclaimed impounded cattle by public auction under section 14 of the Cattle Trespass Act, 1871, to dispose of them as he thought fit without referring the matter to the District Magistrate.

(4) *Act VI of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the City of Bombay Municipal Act,* 1888) gave effect to the proposal of the Municipal Corporation to grant an extra remuneration of Rs. 2,000 per annum to the municipal auditors in addition to a remuneration not exceeding Rs. 15,000 per annum granted to

them under section 136 of the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888, in view of the abnormal increase of work in recent years in connection with the examination and audit of the municipal accounts as well as of the accounts of the School Committee.

(5) *Act No. VII of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Indian Motor Vehicles Act,* 1914, *in its application to the Presidency of Bombay*) was passed for the following reasons :—It was represented to Government that when a conviction was made for an offence against rules regulating the use of motor vehicles, the endorsement giving particulars of the convictions should be made, not on the driver's license under the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1914, but on the driver's permit issued under the rules.

(6) *Act VIII of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Bombay Children Act,* 1924).—By this Act it was provided that the court should have the power to sentence an offender under 16 to caning in cases where the conduct of the offender was such as to lead the court to believe that no other punishment would be effective. Provision was also made to commit the child or young person to an approved place under certain circumstances and to exempt the child or young person, convicted of any offence, from the operation of section 75 of the Indian Penal Code, or section 565 of the Criminal Procedure Code, or from any disqualification for office or election under any law.

(7) *Act IX of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Bombay District Police Act,* 1890).—The amendment was intended to dispense with the condition of being present as laid down in section 42 (1) of the Bombay District Police Act, 1890, in the case of the District Magistrate, when he issued the prohibitory order under section 42. The condition, however, remained in the case of a magistrate of the first class. A provision was also made that a magistrate of the second class specially empowered in that behalf might also issue such prohibitory orders.

(8) *Act X of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Bombay Local Boards Act,* 1923) was passed with the following objects :—

(*i*) It was considered desirable in the interests of local boards that police patels who were *ex-officio* keepers of village cattle-pounds should not be debarred from being members of local boards.

(*ii*) It was sought to remove the discrepancy between the provisions of the Bombay Ferries Act, 1868, and the Bombay Local Boards Act, 1923, over the question of proceeds of public ferries.

(9) *Act XI of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the City of Bombay Improvement Trust Transfer Act,* 1925).—The amendment enabled the Board to give advances to private individuals subject to the conditions laid down in the Act and in the same way that Government granted building loans to purchasers of their plots in the suburbs of Bombay.

(10) *Act XII of 1931* (*An Act further to amend the Bombay District Municipal Act,* 1901, *and the Bombay Municipal Boroughs Act,* 1925) was passed for the following purposes :—(1) to make provision in the Bombay District Municipal Act, 1901, for the calling of a meeting for the election of a president when a municipality was constituted for the first time or when it was re-established or re-constituted after dissolution or supersession under section 179 ; (2) to authorise the levy of separate fees for the issue of warrants ; (3) to extend the provisions of section 69 of the Bombay District Municipal Act, 1901, and section 86 of the Municipal Boroughs Act, 1925 ; and (4) to empower Municipalities to regulate washing places.

(11) *Act XIII of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Bombay Entertainments Duty Act,* 1923) was passed to meet cases of evasion of tax levied under section 3 of the Entertainments Duty Act, 1923, by amending section 2 of the Act.

(12) *Act XIV of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Bombay Irrigation Act,* 1879) was passed with the following objects :— It was considered necessary in the general interests of the cultivators to scrap the existing long, winding, and unscientifically constructed water-courses and replace them by new and scientifically designed and aligned ones. Option was to be given to the holders of land to construct their own water-courses to the satisfaction of the canal-officer within a specified period. But if this option was not exercised, the water-courses were to be constructed at the cost of Government. The amended Act empowered Government to recover this cost from the landholders. It also empowered a canal officer, not inferior in rank to an Executive Engineer, to change the source of water supply in order to ensure efficient distribution and settle disputes, after giving due notice to the holder of the land, and affording him a reasonable opportunity of being heard.

An important point to note in connection with this Act is that its main and important provisions—(section 4) whereby a new Part XI has been inserted after section 89 of the principal Act (of 1879)—are to apply, in the first instance, to lands irrigable by the Lloyd Barrage Canals only. But provision has been made that Government may, from time to time, by

notification in the *Bombay Government Gazette* extend this Part XI to lands irrigable by such other canals in Sind as may, from time to time, be improved or remodelled for the more efficient distribution of water therefrom.

(13) *Act XV of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Bombay Hereditary Offices Act*).—Section 64 of the Act was so amended as to provide for performance of service appertaining to inferior village hereditary offices by watandars through deputies, in those cases in which such a course was not considered by the Collector to be inadvisable.

(14) *Act XVI of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Bombay District Police Act*, 1890) authorised a criminal court to release a convicted person after due admonition, while acting under any of the clauses of section 61 of the District Police Act.

(15) *Act XVII of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Bombay Municipal Act*, 1888) was passed to do away with the system of co-option in the Bombay Corporation, as it was believed that the purpose for which that system was introduced was not properly served. Opportunity was also taken to re-arrange the number of seats in consequence of the discontinuance of the co-option system.

(16) *Act XVIII of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the City of Bombay Pleaders Act*, 1920) was passed to give some relief to the poorer class of litigants in a court of law by reducing the pleaders' fees to 3 per cent. if the amount or value of the subject-matter in dispute did not exceed Rs. 5,000.

(17) *Act XIX of* 1931 (*An Act to amend the Karachi Rent Restriction Act*, 1929).—The Karachi Rent Restriction Act, 1929, was due to expire on 31st December 1931, but it was considered necessary to extend its operation for a further period of one year, i.e. up to 31st December 1932, as it was alleged that many workers, artisans and clerks, who formed the bulk of the tenant class, had been thrown out of employment, due to trade depression. It was also provided that no distress warrant should be issued in the case of premises which were controlled under the Rent Act, and that no suit should be entertained in the case of such premises, unless the plaintiff annexed to his plaint an order of the Rent Controller fixing the standard rent of the premises in question.

(18) *Act XX of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Bombay Prevention of Prostitution Act*, 1923).—Section 13 (2) of the Act was so amended as to contain a provision that section 188 of the Bombay Municipal Boroughs Act, 1925, corresponding to section 152 of the Bombay District Municipal Act, 1901,

was deemed to have been repealed when section 3 of the Bombay Prevention of Prostitution Act, 1923, was extended to any municipal borough.

(19) *Act XXI of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the City of Bombay Municipal Act,* 1888, *and the City of Bombay Improvement Trust Transfer Act,* 1925).—In view of the important civic duties attaching to the office of President of the Municipal Corporation of the City of Bombay the President was designated "Mayor", as in Calcutta. It also conferred the power vested in the President of preserving order at meetings of the Corporation upon the presiding authority.

(20) *Act XXII of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Bombay Local Boards Act,* 1923) was passed for the following reasons :— Since it had come to the notice of Government that very few district local boards spent the proceeds of the cess levied by Government under section 95 of the Bombay Local Boards Act, 1923, on every rupee of water-rate leviable under the provisions of the Bombay Irrigation Act, 1879, towards improvement of communications in irrigated tracts, it was considered equitable that a cess levied on irrigated land only should be devoted primarily to objects which would benefit irrigated areas and it was accordingly decided to provide that in any district notified by Government in that behalf, such specified portion of the net proceeds of the cess levied therein under section 95, as might be determined by Government, after consultation with the District Local Board concerned, should be utilised towards the improvement of communications in irrigated tracts in that district.

(21) *Act XXIII of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Bombay District Municipal Act,* 1901, *the Bombay Local Boards Act,* 1923, *and the Bombay Municipal Boroughs Act,* 1925) was passed in order to bring funds deposited with a banker within the scope of section 178 (3) of the Bombay District Municipal Act, 1901. The amendment was based on section 53 of the District Municipal Act, 1901, and followed section 520 (3) of the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888. Section 127 (3) of the Local Boards Act, 1923, and section 218 (3) of the Municipal Boroughs Act, 1925, were also amended on similar lines.

Opportunity was also taken to amend section 53 of the District Municipal Act, 1901, by substituting the words "Imperial Bank of India", for the words "Bank of Bombay" and by deleting the words "at interest". A corresponding change was also made in section 67 (1) of the Municipal Boroughs Act, 1925.

(22) *Act XXIV of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Bombay Improvement Trust Transfer Act*, 1925) was passed with a view to regularise a technical objection in regard to the preparation of the budget and accounts of the Bombay City Improvement Trust in the year, 1932–33.

(23) *Act XXV of* 1931 (*An Act further to amend the Bombay Village Sanitation Act*, 1889) provided for the incorporation of Sanitary Committees and Sanitary Boards and enabled them to hold, acquire and transfer the property vesting in them. Having regard to the powers given to Sanitary Committees and Boards certain provisions of the Act (of 1889) were also amended.

Opportunity was also taken to popularise the constitution of Sanitary Boards by introducing definitely an elective principle taking care at the same time to keep the provisions as simple and elastic as possible.

(24) *Act I of* 1932 [*An Act to amend the Tobacco Duty* (*Town of Bombay*), *Act*, 1932] was passed with a view to increase the rate of duty on tobacco imported into the town of Bombay levied under section 2 of the Tobacco Duty (Town of Bombay) Act, 1857, so as to enable the Bombay Municipal Corporation to meet its increased liabilities on account of the proposed amalgamation of the Bombay City Improvement Trust with the Municipality.

(25) *Act II of* 1932 (*An Act to provide for the levy of a duty on consumption of electrical energy for the purpose of lights and fans in the Presidency of Bombay and to amend the Court-fees Act*, 1870, *and the Indian Stamp Act*, 1899, *in their application to the said Presidency*) was passed with the object of providing for the levy of a surcharge on the consumption of electrical energy and of enhancing the court-fees and stamp duties in certain cases for the purpose of increasing the revenue of Government.

Government Bills.—Nineteen Bills were published and introduced in the Legislative Council during the period under report. Of these fifteen Bills were passed into law, one was withdrawn and the remaining three were lost at the first reading.

Private Bills.—During the period under report nine private Bills were introduced, three published and 15 introduced and published.

Budget.—The Budget for the year 1932–33 was presented to the Council on the 17th February 1932, and twelve days were allotted for the discussion of demands for grants. No cuts

were made in the Budget as a result of motions to reduce or omit grants.

Amendments to Standing Orders.—One motion to amend the Standing Orders was passed during the year under report. It related to amendments of Standing Orders IV, VII, VIII and X.

Government Motions.—Three Government Motions were moved by the Honourable Members and Minister and were carried.

Non-Official Resolutions.—Twenty-one resolutions were moved during the period under report. Of these nine were carried ; five were withdrawn after discussion ; six were lost and the consideration of one was postponed.

Condolatory References.—Condolatory references were made during the period under report to the deaths of two members of the Legislative Council, Messrs. L. T. Karki and Wadero Wahidbaksh Illahibaksh Bhutto.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

The High Court, consisting of a Chief Justice and nine Puisne Judges, has both ordinary and extraordinary civil and criminal jurisdiction and exercises original and appellate functions. The appellate Judges of the High Court also supervise the administration of justice by Subordinate Civil and Criminal Courts. Ordinary original jurisdiction is exercised in matters both civil and criminal, which arise within the limits of the Town and Island of Bombay, but the High Court may in Civil cases remove and itself try any suit brought in any Court under its superintendence, and, in criminal cases, exercise jurisdiction over all persons residing in any place whose Courts are subject to the superintendence of the High Court.

In the Mofussil, the administration of civil justice is, in addition to the High Court and the Court of the Judicial Commissioner of Sind, entrusted to four grades of Courts, those of District and Assistant Judges and of two classes of officers styled, respectively, First and Second Class Subordinate Judges.

The Small Causes Court.—For the more easy recovery of small debts and demands, Courts invested with summary powers have been established in the City of Bombay and in Ahmedabad, Poona and Karachi. The Judges of the mofussil Small Causes Courts have jurisdiction in money suits within the towns where the Courts are situated up to Rs. 500 in value and their decisions are final, save in so far as they are subject to reference on points of law to the High Court or to the supervision of the High Court

in its extraordinary jurisdiction. The jurisdiction of these Courts may be extended to Rs. 1,000 and they can also be invested with appellate jurisdiction. The Presidency Small Causes Court has cognisance in suits not exceeding Rs. 2,000 in value arising within the Island of Bombay.

Criminal Courts.—District and Assistant Judges under the title of Sessions Judges, Additional and Assistant Sessions Judges exercise criminal jurisdiction. But the executive district officers who in addition to their revenue duties are invested with magisterial powers, dispose of original criminal work to a great extent. There are under the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code, in addition to the High Court, four grades of Criminal Courts—those of the Magistrates of the Third, Second and First Class, respectively, and the Courts of Sessions.

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY PROPER

CIVIL JUSTICE

The Judicial Staff employed in the Presidency on 31st December 1931 and available for Civil cases consisted of 10 permanent High Court Judges and one temporary Additional Judge ; 17 District Judges ; 9 Assistant Judges (including four under training) ; a Chief Judge and five Judges (including one temporary Additional Judge) of the Presidency Small Cause Court ; two Provincial Small Cause Court Judges ; 21 First Class Subordinate Judges and 96 Second Class Subordinate Judges. In addition, the Registrars of the Small Cause Courts of Ahmedabad and Poona exercised the powers of a Small Cause Court Judge. There were also three Inamdars and Jagirdars exercising the powers of a Subordinate Judge under Regulation XIII of 1830 and 92 Village Munsiffs appointed under the Deccan Agriculturists' Relief Act (Act XVII of 1879).

The number of suits for disposal on the Original Side of the High Court was 6,026 as compared with 6,665 in the previous year. These included 3,317 pending at the close of last year. The number decided was 2,940 leaving a balance of 3,086 undisposed of at the end of the year. Of the suits undisposed of one was 12 years old and one 8 years old, One hundred and eighty were between five and eight years old and 795 were three and four years old.

There were in all 3,732 insolvency petitions. Of these 1,109 were decided. There were also 3,504 applications for execution of decrees of which 2,195 were disposed of and 1,309 remained at the close of the year 1931. The number of petitions for probate and letters of administration was 517.

There were 147 appeals from the Original Side, including 72 appeals under Letters Patent. Of these 83 were decided. The number of appeals from the Subordinate Civil Courts was 4,700. Of these, 1,401 were disposed of.

There were in all 9,888 appeals before the civil appellate Courts in the mofussil and 5,350 were disposed of.

Mofussil Courts.—The number of suits instituted in the mofussil civil courts was 168,983, an increase of 8,604 over the figures of the previous year. The total value of suits instituted in 1931 amounted to Rs. 5,05,81,173, a decrease of Rs. 55,65,732 on the total for 1930.

The largest number of suits instituted during the year was in Poona (17,200). In no other district except East Khandesh, West Khandesh, Nasik, Broach, Ahmedabad and Kaira did the institutions exceed 10,000.

Including pending suits, the number for disposal was 240,414 and the number disposed of was 174,156.

Out of the suits disposed of during the year 20,269 or 11·6 per cent. were disposed of without trial; 73,262 or 42·1 per cent. without contest; 79,752 or 45·8 per cent. with contest and 873 or ·5 per cent. by compromise.

The number of pending suits was 66,258 against 69,178 in the preceding year. Of the pending cases, 6,751 had been pending for more than a year.

Out of the 248,069 applications for Execution of Decrees before the Courts 159,978 were dealt with during the year.

The receipts of the High Court included—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Stamp fees including the income of Court Receiver and Liquidator	12,66,839	10	8
Probate and Administration Duty	6,29,392	4	0
Admission fees from Advocates and Attorneys ..	9,500	0	0
Rent from High Court Chambers	15,791	12	0
Other miscellaneous receipts	16,353	0	7
Total ..	19,37,876	11	3

The expenditure comprised the following items—

	Rs.	a.	p.
Salaries of the Hon. the Chief Justice and Acting Chief Justice and Puisne Judges and Additional Judge and Acting Judges ..	5,45,199	8	0
Salaries of Gazetted Officers and Establishment on the Original Side and Registrar's Establishment, Translators' Department, Appellate Side	6,58,589	5	0
Contingencies and Travelling Allowance and Pleaders' fees in Murder cases	86,219	10	0
High Court Press, etc.	10,619	13	6
Total ..	13,00,628	4	6

These figures appear to show an excess of receipts over expenditure of Rs. 6,37,248 but in the opinion of Government they require further explanation. The Probate and Administration Duty mentioned above is a tax collected through the agency of the High Court and as such is no part of its income. If this item is deducted from the income and a sum representing the rent and upkeep of the High Court Buildings is added to the expenditure, the " net profit " would disappear and there would, on the contrary, be a loss.

Presidency Small Cause Court.—The figures of suits instituted, disposed of and pending at the close of the year 1931 in the Presidency Small Cause Court were 38,944, 39,678 and 5,258, respectively. The institutions and disposals show a decrease of 2,169, 1,779 and 756, respectively over the figures of the previous year.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Judicial Staff employed in the Presidency on the 31st December 1931 and available for Criminal Cases consisted of 10 permanent and 1 temporary High Court Judges ; 17 Sessions Judges ; 3 Additional Sessions Judges ; 2 Assistant Sessions Judges ; 377 First Class Magistrates ; 407 Second Class Magistrates ; 213 Third Class Magistrates ; 144 Sanitary Committees and Sanitary Boards and 238 Village Panchayats.

In addition to the above, there were 19,399 Police Patils and 48 Benches of Magistrates, inclusive of four in the City of Bombay, constituted from 471 Honorary Magistrates.

There were 221,826 offences reported during the year, an increase of 21,560 against the figures of 1930. Of the total number of cases, 215,194 were found to be true, the number

brought to trial was 212,434. Eight hundred and eighty-six cases were affecting human life of which 232 were murders and 147 of the latter ended in conviction.

The Presidency Magistrates including Honorary Magistrates dealt with 102,789 cases against 89,858 in the previous year. The number of cases dealt with under Special Laws was 93,964 or 13,375 more than in the year 1930.

The aggregate number of persons under trial before the Presidency Magistrates was 112,441. Of these 13,431 were acquitted or discharged; 94,867 were convicted and 211 were committed to the High Court. About 3,915 remained under trial at the end of the year.

Mofussil Tribunals.—The aggregate number of persons under trial before the mofussil tribunals was 177,642. Of these, the cases of 1,317 were committed or referred to the Sessions and the cases of remaining 176,325 were finally disposed of by the various Tribunals. Of the total 160,956, 81,552 or 50·6 per cent. were convicted and 79,000 or 49·1 per cent. were acquitted or discharged, 173 persons died, 207 escaped during their trials and 24 were transferred.

The total number of persons awaiting trial before Magistrates and Village Officers at the close of the year was 15,369 as compared with 16,056 in 1930.

The sentences passed by the mofussil courts included imprisonment on 9,125 persons, fine on 71,034, whipping on 118 and "ordered to give security", 3,416.

The fines imposed and realised during the year amounted to Rs. 8,61,267 and Rs. 6,42,607, respectively. A total sum of Rs. 28,613 was paid as compensation to complainants.

Court of Sessions.—There were 3,071 persons under trial before sessions. Of these the cases of 2,780 were decided and 1,451 or 52·1 per cent. convicted.

The number of appeals decided by Appellate Courts subordinate to the High Court was 3,484 as against 2,992 in the preceding year. The number of persons whose appeals were decided by courts of magistrates was 2,548, while the Sessions Courts dealt with appeals of 2,574 persons.

High Court.—There were in all 139 cases for trial by the High Court. Of these 120 were decided. On the Appellate Side the High Court dealt with 802 appeals, leaving 76 pending at the close of the year.

SIND

CIVIL AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Sind Judiciary exercises jurisdiction over an area of 46,506 square miles with a population according to the Census of 1931 of 3,887,070. Owing to the completion of the Lloyd Barrage and Canals Construction Scheme, a separate district of Dadu, which formed part of the Larkana District, was created both for the purposes of the Land Revenue Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898.

There was a slight increase in the civil and criminal work in the year under report.

The total number of civil suits instituted during the year was 41,870 as compared with 41,546 in 1930. The value of suits filed was Rs. 141·82 lakhs. The number of suits disposed of and pending at the close of the year was 43,726 and 11,189 respectively as against 41,487 and 12,104 in the previous year.

As regards criminal work the number of offences reported and those returned as true during the year under review were 41,286 and 40,327 respectively, an increase of 4,466 and 4,701 as compared with the figures of the preceding year. There was a corresponding increase in the number of cases brought to trial from 37,817 to 40,619 ,while the number of persons under trial decreased from 63,984 to 63,053. The number of persons remaining under trial at the end of the year rose from 6,688 to 8,244. The total number of persons under trial before the several Criminal Courts, including the Court of the Judicial Commissioner, was 63,749 out of which 24,984 were convicted. Thirteen persons were sentenced to death, 48 to transportation, 5,824 to imprisonment, 17,934 to fine, 402 to whipping and 936 persons were ordered to furnish security. The fines in 1931 amounted to Rs. 2·11 lakhs as against Rs. 2·65 lakhs in 1930.

The number of offences affecting life and attempts at such offences rose from 367 to 394. A large portion of this class of crime arose from intrigues or supposed intrigues with women.

REGISTRATION

The report on the working of the Registration Department for the triennium ending 31st December 1931 showed that the total number of registrations during the year 1931 was 265,045 against 298,764 in 1930. This decrease was observed in all classes of documents and was generally due to depression in trade, tightness of the money market and fall in prices of agricultural produce.

The average total number of documents relating to immovable property as compared with the number for the last triennium fell from 296,019 to 287,288 while the documents relating to moveable property declined by 5·1 per cent. Tagavi bonds showed an increase by 301 to 1,243, during the current triennium. The Co-operative Credit Societies registered on an average 11,196 documents during the triennium under report against 8,679 in the last.

The average number of documents returned by post fell from 222,682 to 214,678.

The total gross income of the Department declined from Rs. 11,51,246 in 1930 to Rs. 11,06,474 in 1931, i.e. by 3·9 per cent.

The total *pro-forma* expenditure came to Rs. 7,10,823 in 1931 as against Rs. 7,50,983 in the preceding year.

JOINT STOCK COMPANIES

The number of new companies registered during the year under report was 141 as against 108 in the preceding year. Of these 134 were limited by shares—48 Public and 86 Private—and 7 limited by Guarantee.

The number of Companies in operation limited by shares at the close of the year was 1,051 as compared with 915 in the year preceding.

The aggregate Authorised, Subscribed and Paid-up Capitals of companies increased during the year by about 1 crore, $5\frac{3}{4}$ crores and 1·10 crores, respectively.

Eighteen companies incorporated outside British India established their places of business in this Presidency as against eleven in the previous year.

The number of Societies registered under the Societies Registration Act, XXI of 1860, was 44 as compared with 40 in the preceding year.

The number of documents of various classes registered during the year was 3,975 as against 3,744 in the preceding year.

The revenue from fees and by sale of forms amounted to Rs. 45,354 and the expenditure to Rs. 36,714.

CHAPTER IV

POLICE AND CRIME

THE Police force consists of two distinct bodies, stipendiary and the village police. The stipendiary force is divided into grades, the members of which, beginning as Constables on a monthly pay of Rs. 19 in Southern Division, Rs. 20 in Northern and Central Divisions and Rs. 21 in Sind, have the opportunity of becoming Head Constables, Sub-Inspectors, Inspectors and even Deputy Superintendents. In the mofussil—

the Sub-Inspector has charge of the Police Station,
the Inspector has charge of a Sub-Division comprising several Police Stations or a large Town, and
an Assistant Superintendent of Police or a Deputy Superintendent has charge of a Sub-Division of a District.

The pay of a Sub-Inspector ranges from Rs. 75 to Rs. 160 and that of an Inspector from Rs. 180 to Rs. 300 per mensem. The whole staff of the Police Prosecuting Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors is now designated as "Police Prosecutors" and their pay ranges from Rs. 90 to Rs. 400 per mensem. The pay of a Deputy Superintendent of Police ranges from Rs. 200 to Rs. 800 per mensem.

It is not the purpose of Government to give the stipendiary police a regular military character, and a portion only are armed, and to them are allotted the duties of guarding jails and lock-ups and the escort of prisoners and treasure. The more purely police functions are discharged equally by members of the armed and of the unarmed branches of the force.

The proportion of police to area and population of the different portions of the Presidency varies greatly, being determined by a consideration of the nature of the country, the density and character of the population, and the neighbourhood of Indian States.

In the Northern Range there is one policeman to every 4·10 square miles and to 850 inhabitants.

In the Southern Range 1 to 5·27 square miles and to 1,053 inhabitants.

In Sind 1 to 8·49 square miles and to 685·97 inhabitants. Of the total police force, excluding officers, 1,224 were mounted.

For the purpose of control in the Presidency proper the whole force is under the Inspector-General of Police, who is assisted by three Deputy Inspectors-General of Police. Certain administrative powers have, however, been reserved to the Commissioners of Divisions.

The executive management of the police in each district is vested, under the general direction of the Magistrate of the District, in a Superintendent of Police, who is assisted by a Deputy Superintendent, and has in some cases one or more Assistant Superintendents under him.

Railway Police.—A special police organisation exists in connection with the railways of this Presidency—the North-Western which traverses Sind, the B. B. & C. I., the G. I. P. and the M. & S. M. Railways. The police employed along these lines of rail are under the supervision of three Superintendents. The Railway Police form a distinct body quite independent of the Police of the districts in which they serve, but their pay and prospects are identical with those of the District Police. Since the year 1919 the cost of the " Crime and Order Police " is wholly debited to the Provincial Revenues and that of the " Watch and Ward Staff " is borne by Railway Administrations.

Criminal Investigation Department.—In addition to the police attached to individual districts there exists a special organization for the detection of crime called the Criminal Investigation Department, which includes the Finger Print Bureau and is under the immediate control of a Deputy Inspector-General of Police. The Criminal Investigation Department, in co-operation with the Police of other provinces, is employed in the prevention of the spread of serious crime, in the investigation into crime having ramifications over several jurisdictions and in the pursuit of criminals. The Finger Print Bureau has been working satisfactorily since its establishment in 1901.

MOFUSSIL POLICE

" The civil disobedience movement continued to occupy the attention of the Police during the year, though not so completely as it did in 1930 " said the Inspector-General of Police in his annual report for 1931. " The truce arrived at under what is known as the " Irwin-Gandhi pact " was, in fact, a period of preparation. While the more active and open hostilities of 1930 gradually ceased, the followers of Congress concentrated their energies on keeping alive the

war-mentality. The scarcely concealed propaganda aimed at keeping alive the hatred of, and contempt for, Government fostered during the campaign of 1930 and the carefully concealed efforts to infect rural tracts with the Congress views imposed upon the Police ceaseless vigil, circumscribing their activities in other directions and seriously hampering their efforts towards the prevention and detection of crime."

The outstanding feature of the year was the very pronounced decrease in reported cognizable crime, both ordinary and serious. There was an improvement in the percentage of property recovered. There was also some diminution in the number of pending and undetected cases and an improvement in the percentage of cases ending in conviction to cases classed as true. There was also an increase in the number of cases sent up under Chapter VIII, Criminal Procedure Code.

The total number of cognizable and non-cognizable offences reported during the year was 123,843 as against 112,282 in 1930—a net increase of 11,561 cases under all classes.

The total number of cognizable cases dealt with by the Police *suo motu* during the year was 29,149 while those dealt with by Magistrate direct amounted to 9,747 giving a total of 38,896 as against a total of 39,848 in 1930—a decrease of 952 cases.

The total of non-cognizable crime stood at 84,947 as against 72,434 in 1930—an increase of 12,513 cases.

Cognizable crime reported to the Police dropped from 30,941 in 1930 to 29,149 in the year under report, a decrease of 1,792 cases, while direct cognizable complaints to Magistrates increased by 840 from 8,907 to 9,747.

Non-cognizable complaints have risen from 72,434 in 1930 to 84,947 in the year under report.

Discussing these variations the Inspector-General of Police remarked that the totals of all reported cognizable crime for the Presidency proper including Railways for the last four years was :—1927—29,219 ; 1928—27,491 ; 1929—28,887 ; 1930—30,941 and 1931—29,149. These figures showed an appreciable fall by 1,792 cases as compared with 1930. In the Bombay Suburban District, the total number of cognizable crime was 789, the lowest on record since 1926. This was mainly due to the following causes :—

(*a*) Improved system of night rounds in which all available armed men from the Headquarters were utilized on night round duty.

(*b*) Some increase in the strength of the Bandra Police Station and the formation of a " Flying Squad."

(c) The working of the *modus operandi* system by the District Criminal Intelligence Branch.

In Gujarat, however, the situation was not so favourable. So far as offences under the main heads were concerned—items I to V, Indian Penal Code—there was an increase in all the districts. It was most marked in Ahmedabad.

The number of cases of reported crime under the more important heads were :—Murders 403 ; attempts at murder and culpable homicide 151 ; dacoities 284 ; robberies 544 ; house-breaking 5,233 ; thefts 7,476 ; and receiving stolen property 388.

The incidence per 1,000 of population of cognizable crime reported in 1929 and 1930 under classes I to V showed that Burma continued to be the most and Madras the least criminal provinces, while the Bombay Presidency where the incidence of cognizable crime per 1,000 of population was 1·30 showed some improvement in 1930. The incidence of cognizable crime for 1931 was 1·20 per thousand of population. The Bombay Suburban District recorded the highest rate 4·04, Ahmedabad came next in order recording 2·15. The lowest was in Ratnagiri ·30.

The total number of police cases for disposal was 34,548 against 35,901 in the previous year.

Eliminating cases excluded and those pending at the close of the year real cognizable crime disposed of amounted to 24,185 cases against 25,268 in the year 1930—a decrease of 1,083 cases.

The total number of undetected cases was 7,473 as against 8,084 in 1930—a decrease of 611 cases. The percentage of undetected cases to true cases disposed of stood at 30·89 as compared with 31·99 in 1930.

Out of 15,878 cases decided by trial 14,894 ended in conviction as against 15,288 out of 16,249 cases tried in 1930. The percentage of cases convicted to those tried was 93·80 as against 94·08 in the year before under all classes.

Offences under special and local laws dealt with by the Police numbered 9,099 in 1931 as against 9,085 in the year, giving an increase of only 14 cases.

The total number of persons arrested by the Police *suo motu* was 32,659 as compared with 37,863 in the previous year.

The reported non-cognizable crime rose very heavily from 72,434 in 1930 to 84,947 in the year under report, a net increase of 12,513 cases. The percentage of convictions rose from 78·77 in 1930 to 83·28 in the year under report.

The number of persons concerned in non-cognizable cases who appeared before the Courts in 1931 was 130,400 as against 113,175 in 1930. The percentage of persons convicted to those tried and of persons convicted to those who appeared before the Courts were 63·24 and 45·49 as against 61·42 and 42·29, respectively, in 1930.

The value of property stolen during 1931 in connection with cognizable cases was Rs.10,21,843 against Rs. 11,53,345 in 1930. The value of property recovered was Rs. 3,00,815 as compared with Rs. 3,23,618 in the previous year. The percentage of property recovered to property stolen, based on the percentage of property recovered in individual cases, was 38·63 against 35·31 in the year before.

During the year 3,634 out of 21,475 arrested persons were identified as having been previously convicted and 870 were classed as " habitual offenders ".

The strength of the police was 714 officers and 17,485 men. The total cost of the police including clerical establishment amounted to Rs. 1,04,90,201 as against Rs. 1,09,80,115 in 1930–31, a decrease of Rs. 4,89,914. The average cost per policeman in the Presidency proper decreased from Rs. 540 to Rs. 522.

The proportion of Police to area, population and cognizable crime investigated was one Policeman to 4·61 square miles, 2·29 Railway miles, 940 persons and 1·59 cognizable crime investigated as against one to 4·60 square miles, 2·29 Railway miles, 938 persons and 1·63 cognizable crime investigated in the previous year.

There was a considerable drop in the number of resignations which fell from 234 in 1930 to 172 in 1931. " No more satisfactory or encouraging reply could be given to those who are attempting to dissuade men from remaining in Government service," remarked the Inspector-General of Police.

SIND POLICE

The civil disobedience movement continued to give an impetus to crime, but economic depression, low prices and unemployment were largely responsible for an increase of 913 in the number of reported cognizable offences, the figures having risen from 12,773 to 13,686 in the year 1931. The District Police in Sukkur, Larkana and Upper Sind Frontier districts were re-organised during the year under report and there was

a re-adjustment of areas as regards Larkana and Upper Sind Frontier districts owing to the creation of the revenue district of Dadu.

The number of excluded cases increased from 3,642 to 4,041 and the percentage of cases excluded to cases reported increased from 23·69 to 24·60. The number of cases reported to be maliciously false dropped from 668 in the previous year to 626. Prosecutions were instituted in 147 cases as against 171 in the previous year but the percentage of convictions obtained increased from 52·04 to 58·54.

The strength of the police force has been increased from 5,115 in 1930 to 5,664 in 1931, whereas the population has increased from 32,79,377 in 1921 to 38,85,308 in 1931. The incidence of crime to population was 1 to 413 inhabitants as against 1 to 363 in the previous year but Sind is still second only to Burma in incidence of reported crime. In Sind the incidence was 3·29, in Burma 3·83 and in the Bombay Presidency proper 1·44.

The number of true cases under the Indian Penal Code for disposal increased from 8,572 to 8,984 in 1931, i.e., by 412 as against an increase of 941 in the previous year.

Murder and cognate offences fell from 319 in the previous year to 306, dacoities from 133 to 65 and receiving stolen property from 400 to 370. Robberies increased from 79 in the previous year to 94 house-breaking from 2,551 to 2,990, theft including cattle theft from 3,857 to 3,981. The percentage of undetected cases under Indian Penal Code increased from 50·65 to 53·65. The percentage increased in every district except Sukkur where it fell from 65·82 to 63·08.

The percentage of stolen property recovered dropped from 33·09 to 31·84 but the percentage of complainants who received back their stolen property increased from 45·93 to 46·28. The value of the property stolen decreased from Rs. 23,67,174 to Rs. 6,30,634.

The percentage of convictions obtained in cases disposed of decreased from 38·42 to 36·1 and the percentage of cases ending in conviction to cases tried decreased from 77·79 to 76·73. The highest percentage 82·86 was obtained in the Thar Parkar District and the lowest in the Tatta District, namely, 62·50.

The total cost of the Police in Sind for the year 1931-32 was Rs. 34,37,030 as compared with Rs. 34,63,576 in the preceding year.

BOMBAY CITY POLICE

"Except for its first two months the year under report was remarkably peaceful and was disturbed neither by labour nor communal troubles which were the features of the two years preceding the launching of the civil disobedience movement in 1930," said the Commissioner of Police, Bombay, in his annual report for the year 1931. "The first two months, however, found that movement still in progress and the activities of the Congress, though considerably weakened by the arrest of leaders at the end of the previous year continued to impose a heavy strain on the Police, thanks to the habit of disorder which the non-violent Congress had bred among the rabble of Bombay." There were few industrial disputes. The total number of strikes was 17 as compared with 42 in the previous year.

The total number of cognizable and non-cognizable cases reported during the year numbered 131,984 against 123,181 in 1930. The total increase of reported crime was 8,803 which fell mostly under Class VI.

The total number of cognizable cases of all classes reported to the police during the year was 90,512 against 76,822 in 1930. Under the Indian Penal Code (Classes I to V) there were 7,568 cases against 8,031 in 1930. Under Class VI, 82,944 cases were reported against 68,791 in 1930. The total of Indian Penal Code crime (Classes I to V) for the year 1931 is the lowest since the year 1912 and almost all the Police Stations in the City have contributed to this decrease.

A scrutiny of the details discloses that dacoities decreased from 7 to 5, robberies from 125 to 98, house-breaking from 1,742 to 1,434 and theft from 3,995 to 3,782.

The total number of cases under Class VI, the bulk of which represents Local Act cases, rose from 68,791 in 1930 to 82,944 in 1931, an increase of 14,153 cases. The increase is due to the police finding more time to deal with this class of crime, the year being a comparatively quiet one from the political point of view.

Including 905 cases pending from the preceding year *plus* 36 cases of previous years again brought on to the register, there were 91,453 cases for disposal against 78,209 in 1930. Of the total cases for disposal 8,082 fell under the Indian Penal Code (Classes I to V) and 83,371 under Class VI.

The total number of excluded cases for the year 1931 was 548 against 308 in 1930.

The total number of cases pending at the close of the year was 977 as against 905 in 1930.

There were 89,875 cases of all classes classified as true against 76,892 in 1930. Of these, 81,918 resulted in conviction giving a percentage of 91·15 as compared with 90·54 in 1930.

The total number of cases of all classes remaining undetected at the end of the year under report was 3,732 against 4,220 in 1930. The percentage of non-detection works out to 4·08 against 5·40 in 1930.

There were 78 cases of murder and attempted murder including 9 cases pending from the preceding year *plus* 3 cases of the previous years again brought on to the register, against 89 in 1930.

Of the 66 murders and attempted murders reported during the year, the victims in 43 cases were males, in 14 females and in one case the victim was a child. The remaining 8 were cases of infanticide. The motive of the crime in 15 cases was jealousy and in 6 cases gain. In one case no motive could be ascertained. 35 cases were the result of quarrels, etc. and in one case owing to continued unemployment and poverty a father administered poison to his two daughters and then took poison himself.

The total number of offences under the special and local laws dealt with by the police numbered 83,126 against 69,281 in 1930. Of these 79,108 ended in conviction. The bulk of these cases fell under the Bombay City Police Act, Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, Public Conveyances Act, Bombay Prevention of Gambling Act and City of Bombay Municipal Act.

The total number of offences reported direct to the Magistracy during the year was 19,524 as against 20,560. Most of these were offences under the City of Bombay Municipal Act. There were in all 24,786 non-cognizable cases involving 27,646 persons, of whom 9,371 were convicted.

The total value of property alleged to have been stolen in police cognizable cases amounted to Rs. 9,59,890 as compared with Rs. 8,43,691 in 1930. The total value of property recovered was Rs. 2,61,786 which gives a recovery percentage of 27·27 as compared with 26·81 in 1930.

The year under review was marked by increased activity on the part of the police in enforcing the laws against Prostitution and Gambling.

During the year under review 3,000 cars, 177 cycles and 93 heavy motor vehicles were registered. The total number

of motor vehicles running in Bombay City during the year was approximately 10,500. The revenue collected for registration and driving licenses amounted to nearly 9 lakhs of rupees.

During the year under report 88 persons were killed and 2,567 were injured in street accidents, as compared with 97 killed and 2,532 injured in the previous year.

The total permanent strength of the police force at the close of the year was 4,161.

The population of the City according to the Census of 1931 is 1,161,383 and the proportion of crime to population on these figures stands at 1 to 12·86 as compared 1 to 15·23 in 1930. The proportion of crime to each police unit stands at 21·71 as compared with 18·55 in 1930 and 20·66 in 1929. The total cost of the Bombay City police was Rs. 40·31 lakhs.

VILLAGE POLICE

Under the provisions of Bombay Act VIII of 1867, the Village Police are subject to the control and direction of the Commissioner, administered by the different District Magistrates. It is their special duty to prevent crime and public nuisances and to detect and arrest offenders within village limits. They are not stipendiary, but receive perquisites from the inhabitants of the village or rent-free lands or small sums of money from Government. In each village the Village Police are under the charge of the police patel, who is often, but by no means always, the person performing the duties of revenue patel. His duties as police patel are to furnish the Magistrate of the district with any returns or information called for, and to keep him constantly informed as to the state of crime and all matters connected with the Village Police and the health and general condition of the community in his village. Under a form of administration which preserves the village as the unit of collection in revenue matters, the institution of Village Police naturally holds an important place.

There are no Village Police in Sind, but in their place village or taluka trackers (pagis) are employed.

The Village Police rendered special assistance in 412 cases during the year as against 251 in the previous year. Four hundred and twelve village policemen were rewarded as against 365 in 1930. Of these, 200 were rewarded by the grant of good service tickets and four by the presentation of swords and the remainder by money rewards amounting in all to Rs. 1,460. On the other hand, 669 village police were reported for neglect of duty against an equal number in 1930. Of the former, 343

were punished departmentally and 58, who were concerned in the commission of crime, were prosecuted. Of these, 29 were convicted.

It is very gratifying to note that a much larger number of the village police rendered special assistance to the police than in the year before.

ADEN POLICE

The regular Police Force consisted of Unarmed Land and Harbour Police and a small section mounted on camels. The strength of this Force was 9 Inspectors and 310 men.

During the year steps were taken to complete the sanctioned strength of 4 Inspectors and 200 men of the Aden Armed Police Permanent Force, one Arab officer and 100 men having already been entertained during the previous year. One Arab officer was added to this Force in June 1931. It was decided during the year to maintain a mixed force of Arabs, Somalis and Indians, the last named to form one-third of the total strength. The temporary force was gradually disbanded as local recruitment progressed and the final disbandment took place on the 20th March 1932. Two Inspectors and 35 men of the temporary force were transferred to the permanent force.

The total expenditure on the regular Police amounted to Rs. 2,05,506, of which Rs. 1,38,892 was borne by Government, Rs. 42,797 by the Aden Settlement and Rs. 23,817 by the Aden Port Trust. The expenditure on the Armed Police both temporary and permanent including the pay of the Commandant of Police and the Assistant Commandant of Police amounted to Rs. 1,85,774.

GOVERNMENT MALE AND FEMALE WORKHOUSES

By the European Vagrancy Act of 1874, a person of European extraction (which does not include " those commonly known as Eurasians or East Indians ") found asking for alms or wandering about without any employment or visible means of subsistence is a " vagrant " and may be required by a police officer to appear before a Magistrate. If the latter thinks that the vagrant is not likely to obtain employment he sends him to a Government Workhouse known as the Working Men's Hostel, where he is kept. If the Magistrate is of opinion that the vagrant is likely to get employment in any other place in India he may at his discretion forward the vagrant to such a place.

If after a lapse of a reasonable time in a workhouse no suitable employment is obtainable for the vagrant, the local Government

may cause him to be removed from British India at Government expense or may release him.

Penalties are provided by the Act for refusal to go before a Magistrate, for quitting the workhouse without leave etc., two years' imprisonment being the maximum penalty for the latter offence.

The Government Male Workhouse is now administered by the Salvation Army, which receives a grant from Government. Destitute Europeans may go voluntarily to the King Edward's Home which is managed by the Salvation Army and also receives a grant from Government.

The total number of inmates in the Working Men's Hostel during the year ending the 31st December 1931 was 54, out of which 31 were newly admitted. Twenty-five were sent by Magistrates in Bombay City and 6 by Magistrates in the Mofussil.

Twenty-eight were discharged during the year, six of them having found employment and eleven having means or friends to look after them. Four deserted.

The total cost of the Hostel to Government was Rs. 11,647 as against Rs. 11,537 in 1930. The average daily population was 22 as against 26 in 1930 and the average cost per head per annum was Rs. 529-5-9 as against Rs. 443-10-0.

The maximum period of residence of an inmate who left the hostel was nearly four years.

There was no inmate in the Government Female Workhouse during the year 1931.

BOMBAY JAILS

The year 1931 marked a return to normal conditions for the Jail Department. The temporary cessation of the civil disobedience movement in March was followed by the release of large numbers of prisoners convicted of non-violent offences and by the closing of the temporary prisons at Visapur and Yeravda. The jail population which at the beginning of the year stood at the unusually high figure of 17,478 had at the end of the year fallen to the more normal figure of 13,911.

During the year 1,628 prisoners were admitted in connection with the civil disobedience movement in addition to 3,798 confined on the last day of 1930. Out of this number 38 were in prison at the close of the year ; the remainder were released.

The number of prisoners between the ages of 16 and 21 admitted during the year was 2,299 males and 64 females as against 5,297 males and 114 females in 1930. Of these 244 were sent to the Dharwar Borstal School. This school, which

was opened on April 1, 1931, is progressing satisfactorily. The boys are divided into five houses under House Masters. The gates of the School are open throughout the day. Route marches in the country, Scouting, Games and visits to outside tournaments and matches, combined with hard work are doing much to promote the right spirit and atmosphere in the School.

The number of habituals in prison was 4,130 against 3,277 in the previous year.

The number of under-trial prisoners was 86,026 as compared with 92,330 in the year 1930. The under-trials formed 19 per cent. of the total jail population, the same percentage as in 1930 and 1929.

Discipline was well maintained.

The number of prisoners fettered for punishment or security totalled 6,433 against 7,154 in 1930. The Superintendents dealt with 10,964 jail offences which related to work, prohibited articles, assaults and mutiny and other offences.

There were 25 floggings as against 28 in the preceding year.

Special remission was given more liberally. With the increase of special remissions punishments have decreased. There were 21,332 special remissions against 11,723 punishments. The remission system is a great incentive to work and is an all round gain both for the jail and the prisoners.

The health of the prisoners was good, and the death-rate which was only 10·7 per thousand, compares favourably with the rate in all other provinces in India.

Out of 24,960 prisoners released during the year 13,379 or 53·6 per cent. gained weight, 5,452 or 21·8 per cent. remained stationary and 6,129 or 24·6 per cent. lost weight.

The financial results of the year's working were good. The average net cost per prisoner, which has been falling steadily from year to year, again fell from Rs. 112 in 1930 to Rs. 106 in 1931. The working of the jail industries was satisfactory, and although the profits made from manufactures fell owing to trade depression and lack of demand, much good work was done by extra-mural gangs in Sind and the value of the produce from jail gardens compared favourably with normal years.

CRIMINAL TRIBES

"A difficult year has been well tided over and unemployment has never been serious in any settlement. Considering the acute depression existing throughout the country, settlement managers are to be congratulated on their success in keeping

the people under them in work " remarked the Backward Class Officer in his report on the working of the Criminal Tribes Act in the Bombay Presidency for the year 1931–32.

The total population of the settlements as it stood on 31st March 1932 was 7,786 as against 8,842 the previous year.

During the year 78 registered persons with 105 dependents were interned in settlements on the recommendation of the Police ; 935 persons including dependents were released on license to Free Colonies attached to settlements and 301 persons including dependents to villages.

The Jalgaon Settlement was newly established during the year to absorb the Criminal Tribes members selected for interment from the districts of East and West Khandesh. Another sub-settlement at Gunji attached to Khanapur settlement was opened mainly for the purpose of providing coupe cutting work for the *Berads* of this settlement as they have specialised in such work. The Khanapur settlement society which undertakes coupe contracts had again a year of successful working and succeeded in marketing its fuel. A sub-settlement at Kalyan attached to Ambernath settlement was opened during the year as employment in the Match factory at Ambernath was not sufficient to cope with the rising population of the settlement.

A high standard of health has been maintained among the inmates of the settlements and free colonies. Cholera was prevalent in many districts where settlements are located but with the co-operation of the municipal health departments most of the settlers were inoculated and only as few as 12 fatal cases occurred. Cleanly habits were being more and more inculcated amongst the settlers.

During the year there were 332 births in the settlements and 283 in the free colonies against 153 deaths in the settlements and 140 deaths in the free colonies corresponding to a birth and death rate per thousand of 45·5 and 21·6 respectively.

" Education in settlements is compulsory " says the report. " Out of a population of 7,786 in settlements proper the number attending the day and night schools were 1,976 and 298 respectively. The corresponding figures for the free colonies were 1,090 and 152 respectively against a population of 5,752. This shows a rate of 292·3 per thousand for settlements and 215·9 for free colonies. Prominence is given to manual training which is a special feature of settlement schools." The settlement lads were being apprenticed in various trades. It

was very satisfactory to note the great advance in literacy, as children of both sexes passed on to the higher standards. In general the school work showed a marked improvement during the year.

A special feature of the year's working in the field of education was the steady encouragement given to settlement lads to take to secondary and college education. A few boys were sent from many of the bigger settlements to English High Schools and Colleges in the towns.

The Scouting organisation has proved to be of inestimable value in removing untidiness and criminality from the minds of the young people and encouraging them to be truthful, honest and active.

During the year 151 persons from settlements and 4 persons from free colonies attached to settlements were convicted. There were no convictions among the licensees living in villages.

There were 70 cases involving 74 persons under the Criminal Tribes Act, 56 cases involving 67 persons for offences against property under the Indian Penal Code and 6 cases involving 10 persons under other sections of the Indian Penal Code or under the Criminal Procedure Code or under other Acts from settlements. In the Free Colonies there was one case involving one person under the Criminal Tribes Act and three cases involving three persons under the Indian Penal Code.

There were 163 absconders, the same as last year, remaining untraced at the close of the year out of which 128 were registered members and 35 unregistered dependents.

The total number of persons discharged on license was 1,236 as compared with 764 last year. The majority of persons released from settlements are encouraged to take up plots and build houses in the free colonies attached to most settlements in order to prevent them from reverting to their wandering habits after their period of internment is over, and the habit of building good houses in free colonies is spreading.

The Women's Home at Hubli and that attached to the Bijapur settlement both had a year of good work, and the Children's Homes and Hostels at Hubli, Sholapur and Baramati, have continued to work satisfactorily. The probation colony at Dharavi has been continued for another year.

The total recurring expenditure was Rs. 3,13,440.

As usual the missionaries at Hubli, Sholapur and Baramati and the Social Service League workers at Belgaum carried out their selfless task with efficiency.

CHAPTER V

AGRICULTURE, WEATHER AND CROPS

THE agricultural season of 1931–32 was, considering the *kharif* and *rabi* crops together, generally satisfactory over a very large part of the Bombay Presidency proper, and judged by results it was almost equal to that of 1930–31 which was a very good season. The only marked exceptions were in Khandesh and the Karnatak. In Khandesh the main crop, viz., cotton varied from poor to a failure owing to the excessive rains of the season, while over a large part of the Karnatak both cotton and wheat yielded unsatisfactorily, the former (cotton) owing to deficiency of rains from July to September and adverse winds and the latter (wheat) owing to a very bad attack of rust. In Sind, due to the late and irregular inundation of the river Indus, the season was only moderate. The distribution of the rainfall of the season was generally uneven both as regards area and period, but a special feature of the season was that in many areas the deficiency of rains in one month was counterbalanced by their abundance in the following month or *vice versa* with the result that in spite of the uneven distribution of the rains, the season, on the whole, was satisfactory.

Gross and Net Cropped Areas.—In the Bombay Presidency proper, both the gross and net cropped areas remained stationary as compared with the previous year. Thus the gross cropped area increased by 240,000 acres to 29,372,000 acres or by ·8 per cent., while the net cropped area increased by 146,000 acres to 28,386,000 acres or by ·5 per cent. during the year under review.

Twice Cropped Area.—This, however, showed an increase of 10·5 per cent. as compared with the previous year, having risen from 892,000 acres in 1930–31 to 986,000 acres during the year under report. The increase was noticeable in all the Divisions of the Presidency but was specially marked in Gujarat (+73,000 acres) where the favourable late rains enabled a second crop to be taken over a larger area than in the previous year.

Cropped Area in Sind.—In Sind, on the other hand, the gross cropped area, the twice cropped area and the net cropped area showed a considerable decline by 570,000, 44,000 and

528,000 acres respectively or by 11·7, 8·5 and 12·1 per cent. respectively below the previous year due to the unsatisfactory character of the inundation.

Cultivated and Uncultivated Area

(Area in thousands of acres)

Details	Bombay Presidency proper		Sind	
	1931-32	1930-31	1931-32	1930-31
A—Cultivated Area	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Gross cropped area	29,372	29,132	4,315	4,886
Area cropped more than once	986	892	463	506
Net area cropped	28,386	28,240	3,852	4,380
Current fallows	5,208	5,348	5,530	5,159
Assessed	33,358	33,358	8,868	9,012
Unassessed	236	230	514	527
Total cultivated area ..	33,594	33,588	9,382	9,539
B—Uncultivated Area				
Available for cultivation (culturable waste) ..	901	879	6,207	5,907
Not available for cultivation .. Forest ..	8,376	8,380	720	737
Not available for cultivation .. Others ..	5,847	5,873	13,849	13,977
Total uncultivated area ..	15,124	15,132	20,776	20,621
Total area ..	48,718	48,720	30,158	30,160

NATURE OF THE CROPS

About two-thirds of the cultivated area of the Presidency is devoted to growing food-stuffs, jowar, bajri, rice, wheat and gram being the most important crops. Cotton is the largest non-food crop.

Food Crops.—In the Bombay Presidency proper, the area under food crops, i.e. cereals, pulses, sugarcane and fruits and vegetables decreased by 431,000 acres or by 2·1 per cent. as compared with the preceding year but increased by 1,069,000 acres or by 5·5 per cent. as compared with the average. Among the *kharif* crops, bajri showed an increase of 292,000 acres or 7·3 per cent., although the area under rice remained almost stationary as compared with the previous year. The area under

jowar was 7,411,000 acres during the year under report as against 8,627,000 acres during the preceding year. The decrease in area was general and attributed to a fall in prices for jowar. Under the *rabi* crops, wheat showed an increase of 154,000 acres or 9·1 per cent. and gram 129,000 acres or 21·4 per cent. over the areas occupied by these crops in the preceding year.

Non-food Crops.—The area under non-food crops which include cotton, tobacco and oilseeds showed a general increase which amounted to 670,000 acres or 8·2 per cent. above the previous year. The most noticeable increase was under cotton which increased by 514,000 acres or 14·5 per cent. when compared with the previous year. The area under oil-seeds rose from 1,578,000 acres in 1930-31 to 1,615,000 acres during the year under report, chiefly due to the very much increased area sown under groundnuts during recent years having risen from 882,000 acres to 1,615,000 acres. The area under tobacco amounted to 150,000 acres in 1931–32 as against 139,000 acres in 1930–31. The increase under all the principal heads of non-food crops was chiefly attributed to higher price and ready sale obtained by these as compared with the food crops.

In Sind, with the exception of gram which rose by 14,000 acres or 5·1 per cent. to 287,000 acres during the year under report, there was a decrease of a varying extent among almost all the food and non-food crops owing to the unsatisfactory inundation of the river in the province.

Cropped Area

(Area in thousands of acres)

Crops	Bombay Presidency proper		Sind	
	1930-31	1931-32	1930-31	1931-32
I—Food crops	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
(*a*) *Cereals and pulses*—				
Jowari	8,627	7,411	566	482
Bajri	3,988	4,280	1,090	948
Rice	1,991	1,976	1,269	1,183
Wheat	1,691	1,845	594	469
Gram	603	732	273	287
Others	3,602	3,815	302	267
Total, Cereals and pulses ..	20,502	20,059	4,094	3,636
(*b*) Sugarcane	62	65	3	3
(*c*) Other Food crops*	411	420	54	57
Total—Food crops ..	20,975	20,544	4,151	3,696

* These include "Condiments and Spices", fruits, vegetables and miscellaneous food crops.

BOMBAY, 1931-32

(Area in thousands of acres)

Crops	Bombay Presidency proper		Sind	
	1930-31	1931-32	1930-31	1931-32
II—Non-food crops	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
(*a*) Tobacco	139	150	6	8
(*b*) Oil seeds	1,578	1,615	291	233
(*c*) Cotton	3,550	4,064	280	257
(*d*) Other Non-food crops*	2,891	2,999	158	121
Total—Non-food crops ..	8,158	8,828	735	619
Total Crops ..	29,133	29,372	4,886	4,315

* These include " dyes ", drugs and Narcotics excluding Tobacco which has been separately noted, fodder and miscellaneous non-food crops.

The detailed remarks below explain the variations under the principal crops.

Jowar and Bajri.—The area under the jowar crop in the Bombay Presidency proper declined from 8,626,000 acres in 1930–31 to 7,411,000 acres during the year under report, the low price fetched by jowar being the main reason. The area under bajri in the Presidency proper, on the other hand, generally increased to the extent of 292,000 acres over the area of the preceding year. The increase in area under this crop was most marked in the south-east of the Presidency and was attributed to the excellent rains received there in June.

In Sind, the area under both jowar and bajri decreased. Under jowar it fell by 84,000 acres as compared with the area in the preceding year while under bajri the area decreased by 142,000 acres below the area of the previous year.

Rice.—The area under rice in the Bombay Presidency proper remained stationary, i.e. 1,976,000 acres during the year under review as against 1,991,000 acres in the previous year.

In Sind, the area under this crop fell by 86,000 acres to 1,183,000 acres due to the unfavourable inundation.

Wheat.—In the Bombay Presidency proper, the area under wheat increased by 154,000 acres or by 9·1 per cent. over the previous year. The increase was shared chiefly by the North Deccan and Gujarat.

In Sind, on the other hand, the area under wheat decreased by 125,000 acres or 21·0 per cent. below the previous year owing to the early and abrupt subsidence of the canal water in September.

Oil-seeds.—The area under oil-seeds in the Bombay Presidency proper rose slightly by 37,000 acres or by 2·3 per cent. over the previous year, due chiefly to the considerable expansion of groundnut cultivation during recent years.

In Sind, on the other hand, owing to the unsatisfactory nature of the inundation, the area under oil-seeds decreased by 58,000 acres or by 19·9 per cent. as compared with the area of the preceding year.

Groundnut.—The area under groundnut decreased by 10,000 acres or by 1 per cent. only to 989,000 acres during the year under report.

Cotton.—The area under cotton in the Bombay Presidency proper showed a rise of 514,000 acres or 14·5 per cent. when compared with the area of the previous year. The increase in area was general throughout the Bombay Presidency and was due to the relatively better prices fetched by the crop as compared with the other crops, e.g. food-grains etc.

In Sind, however, the crop declined in area by 23,000 acres or by 8·2 per cent. to 257,000 acres during the year under report due to the unsatisfactory character of the river.

Irrigated Area

In the Bombay Presidency proper, the area irrigated —1,038,000 acres—remained stationary during the year under report.

Under Government orders the statistics of the irrigated areas have been differentiated into (1) area irrigated both before and after sowing and (2) area irrigated only before sowing, i.e. the *bosi* and *sailabi* cultivation, and introduced since the preceding season and crop report, i.e. for the year 1930–31. It has thus been possible for the first time to institute a comparison between the extent of irrigation carried on by the two kinds of irrigation mentioned above. In the case of Sind it may be stated with regard to (1) that there was a slight change in the total area irrigated, the area during the year under report having decreased by 95,000 acres or 3·3 per cent. to 2,779,000 acres. Under (2) the decrease was larger, i.e. of 106,000 acres or 19·1 per cent. the area having decreased from 554,000 acres in 1930–31 to 448,000 acres during the year under report.

The decline in area in the province was due to the unsatisfactory character of the inundation of the year.

Irrigated Area

(Area in thousands of acres)

Details	Bombay Presidency proper		Sind		
	1931-32	1930-31	(*a*) and (*b*)	1931-32	1930-31
A—Area Irrigated	Acres	Acres		Acres	Acres
Irrigated from Government Canals ..	184	230	(*a*)	2,636	2,768
			(*b*)	347	332
Irrigated from Private Canals ..	77	73	(*a*)	12	8
			(*b*)	..	..
Irrigated from Wells	591	580	(*a*)	56	40
			(*b*)	..	..
Irrigated from Tanks	134	125	(*a*)	..	..
			(*b*)	..	..
Irrigated from Other Sources ..	52	29	(*a*)	75	58
			(*b*)	101	222
Total, A—Area Irrigated ..	1,038	1,037	(*a*)	2,779	2,874
			(*b*)	448	554
B—Crops Irrigated—					
Rice	227	197	(*a*)	1,182	1,240
			(*b*)	1	27
Wheat	179	160	(*a*)	279	268
			(*b*)	141	228
Barley	10	12	(*a*)	4	4
			(*b*)	5	9
Jowari	207	263	(*a*)	444	462
			(*b*)	3	18
Bajri	41	47	(*a*)	436	479
			(*b*)	1	10
Maize	34	25	(*a*)	3	2
			(*b*)	..	..
Other cereals and pulses ..	88	90	(*a*)	64	144
			(*b*)	309	168
Sugarcane	64	61	(*a*)	4	3
			(*b*)	..	..
Other food crops	148	148	(*a*)	70	43
			(*b*)	11	5
Cotton	31	23	(*a*)	256	280
			(*b*)	..	..
Other non-food crops ..	165	154	(*a*)	133	167
			(*b*)	96	109
Total, B—Crops ..	1,194	1,180	(*a*)	2,875	3,092
			(*b*)	567	574

(*a*) Area irrigated both before and after sowing.

(*b*) Area irrigated only before sowing.

The difference in totals A and B is due to the inclusion in the latter of the area cropped more than once.

Outturn of Crops

The following table compares the acreage under food grain crops (cereals and pulses) in the various Divisions of the Bombay Presidency and their approximate outturn in tons during the year under report with similar statistics for the two preceding years :—

Division	Area in thousands of acres			Outturn in thousands of tons		
	1929–30	1930–31	1931–32	1929–30	1930–31	1931–32
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Tons	Tons	Tons
Gujarat ..	2,089	2,545	2,663	542	641	832
Deccan ..	10,736	11,316	11,129	1,743	2,173	2,007
Karnatak ..	4,622	5,034	4,668	941	914	899
Konkan ..	1,601	1,607	1,598	665	682	661
Total, Bombay Presidency.	19,048	20,502	20,058	3,891	4,410	4,399
Sind ..	4,380	4,094	3,636	984	1,050	906
Grand Total ..	23,428	24,596	23,694	4,875	5,460	5,305

Taking the Presidency and Sind together, the food produced during the year was not much less than that obtained during the previous year, being less by only 2·8 per cent. and so far as the food supply to the general population is concerned the year may be reckoned as a year of plenty. The most outstanding feature of the year was the very low prices of all agricultural produce prevailing throughout the Presidency proper and Sind. The slump in prices which set in by about May 1930 continued during the year. Wages of labour also ruled lower than during the preceding year although the fall in wages was not generally proportionate to the fall in prices of food-stuffs. The net result of these factors has been that for labouring classes earning cash wages the year under report was generally favourable. The self-dependent small farmer chiefly using his own labour and producing food for himself and his family also did not suffer privation, although his cash income was greatly reduced. The remaining class of the agricultural population, the big cultivator employing cash labour on a large scale in producing his crops, suffered most. In short, the economic conditions commencing in 1930–31 remained substantially the same in the year under report.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Bombay Presidency Proper

FEATURES OF THE YEAR

The general impression of 1931–32 is that it was a fairly good agricultural year, though definitely inferior to 1930–31. Actual figures, however, indicate that 1931–32 was nearly as good as 1930–31, and the impression mentioned above may be due to the mark left on the mind by three or four outstanding phenomena, such as the exceptionally bad cotton season experienced in Khandesh and the adverse conditions which affected the rabi jowar crop of the East Deccan, the harmful winds which damaged the cotton crop in Dharwar District, and the wheat rust epidemic in the Karnatak. When the great slump in prices set in about May 1930, many people jumped to the conclusion that there would be profound changes in the areas sown with different crops and they argued that crops like cotton were being produced at a loss. The figures of total cropped area for 1930–31 and 1931–32, viz., 20,502,000 acres and 20,059,000 acres respectively do not reveal any very marked departure from the position prevailing just before the slump. It is clear, however, that the slump in prices did re-act on the areas sown with money crops like cotton. The area sown with this crop diminished by over 20 per cent. in the year 1930–31 immediately succeeding the slump which occurred about May 1930. About half the lost ground was again recovered in 1931–32 when the cotton area rose to over 4 million acres in the British districts of the Bombay Presidency proper. The groundnut area also fell but to a less extent, notwithstanding the fact that the price fell relatively more than that of cotton.

An interesting point pertaining to the price level of Indian agricultural produce generally and cotton in particular in the year under report was the repercussion of Great Britain abandoning the gold standard, and its sequel the readjustment of the sterling-dollar cross-rate. This happened in the latter part of September 1931. The price of cotton in Bombay varied broadly inversely with the sterling-dollar cross-rate after the gold standard was abandoned and was mainly the result of currency depreciation.

The year was notable for the attention given to the problem of protecting India's raw and manufactured products from foreign competition. The Sugar Industries (Protection) Act, 1932, received the assent of the Governor-General on the

G. P. Z. P. 1933. Sann Crop at Padegaon—New Sugarcane Research Station.

8th April 1932. This Act makes provision for the protection of Indian produced sugar for a period of 15 years ending on the 31st March 1946.

An event of some significance to Indian agriculture was the establishment of the section of Agricultural Meteorology by the Meteorological Department of the Government of India, with the aid of a three-years grant from the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. On the " Research " side the programme is to investigate the best methods and standardise them for the measurement of radiation, evaporation, soil-temperature and soil-humidity, so that these data may ultimately be systematically maintained in addition to those of air temperature and air humidity, rainfall, wind, sunshine, etc.

SERVICES RENDERED TO THE PUBLIC

Seed supply.—The organisation of the seed supply of new and improved varieties of crops is one of the major services which the Department is rendering to agriculture. In this way a large volume of seed of the staple crops, such as cotton and rice, is made available to the cultivator.

In the Karnatak the improved strain of cotton which is being introduced into the Kumpta cotton tract is called " Jayawant ". This cotton is superior to the deshi Kumpta in field-yield, ginning yield, spinning performance and resistance to wilt disease. The supply of this seed is organised in a series of stages in the Hubli Zone. It is also being distributed in the Bail-Hongal, Athni and Haveri Zones, but on a smaller scale. The total area sown from controlled seed in these three zones in the year under report was 7,987 acres.

The Karnatak also includes a Dharwar-American cotton tract, and in this tract the Department has introduced an improved strain called Gadag No. 1. This cotton was found superior to the deshi Dharwar-American in field-yield, ginning-yield and spinning capacity.

In the year under report there were 75 seed-growers in Thana and Kolaba districts with an aggregate area of 550 acres sown with 16,820 lbs. of improved Kolamba rice. On the basis of half the produce there should have been 10,00,000 lbs. of seed available for distribution, but owing to rain damage in October and November 1931 only 3,00,000 lbs. of seed was actually available. This quantity is sufficient to sow 10,000 acres in 1932–33. In Ratnagiri District 5,078 lbs. of pedigree seed was supplied to seed-growers for sowing 85 acres. The produce was estimated at 1,25,000 lbs. of which half was available for general

distribution, sufficient to sow 1,000 acres. Similar work is in progress in Kanara District and a rice-seed distribution scheme has been prepared for Dharwar District. The departmental seed-supply operations in wheat, ground-nuts, jowar, bajri, tobacco and nagli are on a smaller scale, but it is satisfactory to record that in the case of groundnuts, in particular, natural spread has accounted for huge areas being brought under new varieties introduced by the Department.

Fruit.—The area under fruit is increasing. In the year under report the acreage rose to 59,403 acres as against 57,662 acres in the previous year. The department is assisting this movement by making available reliable fruit stock, not only to the general public, but to the professional nursery-men who are the proper intermediaries in such operations. The Horticulturist to Government supplied over 9,000 plants to the general public and professional nursery-men in the year under report.

Seed-Grading.—In certain districts, more particularly in the Deccan, remarkable results have been obtained with graded jowar seed. In the year under report the Department, with the aid of local agencies, arranged for the grading of jowar seed on a large scale in Sholapur, Poona, Ahmednagar and Satara districts. In addition 45,960 lbs. of wheat seed and 7,110 lbs. of bajri seed were graded. It is estimated that about 62,000 acres were sown with graded seed in the year under report.

Premium Bulls.—One of the greatest services that the Department can render to Agriculture is the improvement of cattle through the supply of superior bulls for breeding purposes, provided they have the draught qualities demanded by the ploughman. There were 101 premium bulls working in the Intensive Breeding Zones on the 1st July 1932 as against 78 last year. In addition there were 24 premium bulls working in the rest of the Presidency as against 14 in the preceding year. The live-stock expert reports that the market value of this progeny is as much as 30 per cent. more than that of ordinary well-bred stock.

Another important development in the service of cattle breeding is the introduction of registration of pedigree stock. Herd-books have been prepared for all the principal breeds. This has been rendered possible through the marking of cattle by the tattoo method.

Poultry.—The chief service which is being rendered to this industry is the distribution of stud-birds of superior breeds. The District Local Board, Satara, has engaged a poultry expert

Dusting Machine at Work (Near Ratnagiri.)

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and has arranged for the supply of cocks and hens of the Leghorn and Rhode Island Red breeds.

Land Development.—In this Presidency the most important form of land development is embanking to conserve the rainfall and prevent erosion. The practice is an old one, but the Department has been able to demonstrate that embankments (tals) are generally designed wrongly, which leads to much wasted effort and money through breaches, etc. Several of the District Agricultural Overseers have been specially trained in this class of work and their services are in keen demand for preparing plans and estimates and for advice upon alignments and the construction of waste weirs.

Mechanics.—The Mechanical Assistants assist the Deputy Director in advising the public upon the selection of farm machinery like pumping plants and cane crushers and oil engines, and in preparing plans and estimates ; they also undertake the erection or installation of these plants according to terms approved by Government. The Agricultural Engineer to Government is referred to in cases of difficulty. This kind of assistance is much appreciated, and the development of agriculture has been considerably aided thereby in certain tracts, such as the Deccan Irrigation Zone, where there are now 90 power cane-mills.

Crop-protection.—In certain parts of the Karnatak the pig menace is the dominant agricultural problem as crops cannot be grown without protection. In this connection the Department has been assisting the public to fence their lands and several co-operative schemes have been promoted. The Department also continued to assist the agricultural public, especially where there are organised bodies, to organise campaigns for the destruction of wild pig and deer which cause enormous damage to crops in certain tracts. Rat destruction was also continued by issuing packets of arsenical poisons.

Anti-Jowar Smut action.—The work of treating jowar seed before sowing it, with the object of preventing smut-disease, was continued through several agencies. In Khandesh 6,733 sulphur packets were supplied to cultivators, and a special campaign was organised in Shahada Taluka by the Taluka Development Association. Similar operations were continued in the Deccan and Gujarat.

Mango-blight prevention.—The method of dusting mango trees to prevent mango-blight has taken firm root in Ratnagiri District. Some 62 dust guns were used and 7½ tons of sulphur consumed in the Vengurla, Malwan, Devgad and Ratnagiri

talukas. This method of protection is spreading to other centres. Similar operations were conducted on betel-nut, betel-vine and grape-vine.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

As a result of the impetus given to Agricultural Research by the Royal Commission on Indian Agriculture it has been possible for the Department to promote several new research schemes with funds mainly provided by external bodies such as the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, the Indian Central Cotton Committee and the Sir Sassoon David Trust. The most important of these schemes are referred to below.

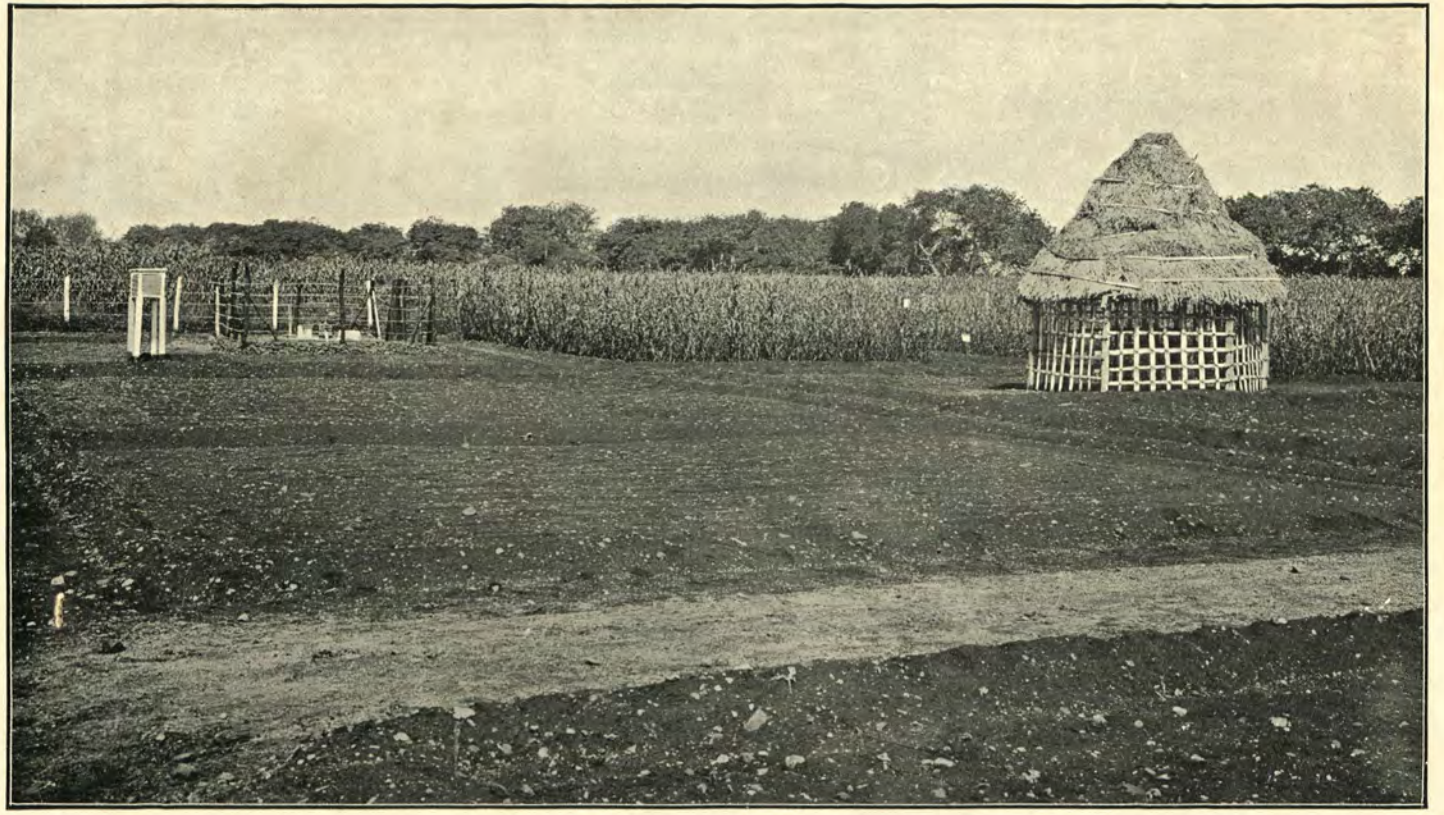
Sugarcane.—This is a big scheme, having for its main objective the production of cane at a much lower price than has hitherto been prevailing, so as to render it possible for Peninsular India to produce sugar for the Indian market in competition with the north of India, and ultimately in competition with foreign cane-sugar producing countries like Java.

Dry-farming.—A deficient rainfall is one of the most formidable problems in Indian agriculture. Canal irrigation is being developed but it can only serve a very small percentage of the gross cultivated area, hence the importance of finding out ways and means for the better utilization of the rainfall.

Fresh-Fruit Export.—With the aid of a grant from the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, ten large scale consignments of fruit were sent to London during the 1932 Mango Season with very encouraging results. Before, however, an export trade can be planned on a scientific basis it is necessary to carry out certain investigations for the purpose of ascertaining the commercial storage life of fruits.

Cotton Wilt.—The research scheme which has been in progress at Dharwar for some years has led to the discoveries which have enabled the plant breeder to test his new strains of cotton under conditions of disease of maximum intensity, through the adoption of a suitable technique which has been worked out. Hitherto these tests had to be conducted under field-conditions far removed from the optimum for the disease, thus resulting in plants which merely escaped the disease being regarded as disease resistant.

Cotton Physiology.—The important research scheme conducted at Surat aimed at finding out the reason for the shedding of 80 to 90 per cent. of the buds and bolls and ascertaining how far this loss can be reduced. The main discovery is that the cause is nutritional and that this phenomenon is not due to insufficient moisture in the soil.



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Dry Farm Experimental Statoin, Manjri.

CROP-BREEDING

Cotton.—Cotton-breeding is in progress at five centres, namely, Surat, Broach, Viramgam, Jalgaon and Dharwar. At Surat the two best strains so far produced are " 1027 A.L.F " and " I.A.". At Broach the cotton-breeding work has been placed on a satisfactory basis due to a grant from the Indian Central Cotton Committee for a five years breeding scheme. Here the object is to produce a cotton which gins not less than 40 per cent., spins not less than 20's counts and is resistant to cotton wilt.

Rice.—Rice-breeding is in progress at four centres, Karjat in Kolaba district, Ratnagiri in Ratnagiri District, Kumpta in Kanara District and Mugad in Dharwar District. At Karjat the strains " K. 42 " and " K. 266 " continue to be the best late Kolamba varieties. At Mugad four improved strains of " Mugad " rice have been produced, and in the year under report they yielded from 12 to 25 per cent. more than the local cheap varieties. Several improved strains of rice have also been produced at Kumpta and Ratnagiri.

Wheat.—The Nasik-Khandesh area is the most important wheat tract in the Presidency and the wheat-breeding work is conducted on a plot of land owned by the Department at Kundewadi. The Bansi variety of wheat is grown in this tract and several pure strains have been isolated.

Other Crops.—Jowar-breeding is in progress at several centres. The work on bajri is now being conducted at Kundewadi where the Department has a plot of land. Work on castors in Gujarat and on groundnuts at Dharwar is also proceeding.

CATTLE-BREEDING

The production of premium bulls is being carried on at four principal centres—Chharodi in Ahmedabad District, Surat in Surat District, Bankapur in Dharwar District and Kandivlee in Thana District. At Chharodi and Surat the breed is Kankrej; and excellent bulls are being produced. At Bankapur the strength of the herd is 124, a considerable number of stock being cast as the herd was originally not pure, but the young cow-herd is now very uniform.

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

The improved seed-drill evolved by the Agricultural Engineer last year required to be lightened both in dead-weight and draught-weight. A new model was accordingly prepared, having a dead-weight of 350 lbs. and a draught of 140 lbs. The new winnower required further modification. It was found to be

rather too heavy for one man to operate continuously. The belt-drive has accordingly been replaced by a chain-drive. Work is in progress upon designing a groundnut digger. Digging out groundnuts from the soil is a great labour-absorbing operation in our principal groundnut tracts. The design is modelled on that of the rotary potato digger in common use in Western Countries. There is a demand for a cheap machine which will crush fresh limes, on a large scale, and work is now in progress on this problem.

AGRICULTURAL PROPAGANDA

Agricultural propaganda is the instrument for bringing home to the minds of the public the improvements which have been worked out by the Department through its research activities.

The principal subjects of propaganda undertaken during the course of the year pertain to Land-Development, Improved Crops, Cultural Methods, Seed-Grading, Cattle-Breeding, Fodder-Conservation, Crop-Pests, Fruit-Farming and Green-Manuring.

Apart from organized shows, the principal methods adopted for demonstration include (1) cultivators' fields, where improved crops, methods or implements are shown. (2) village threshing yards where threshing and winnowing and chaff-cutting machines are shown at work and (3) Revenue Department Jamabandi meetings and fairs where improved methods and seeds and implements are shown. The principal non-official agencies which are undertaking agricultural propaganda are :—

1. Taluka Agricultural Development Associations,
2. District Local Boards,
3. Co-operative Societies,
4. Village School Masters,
5. Business Firms and
6. Individual Agriculturists.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

The Poona Agricultural College.—This institution has been in existence for about a quarter of a century. In the early days the number of students was comparatively small, but since the War the number has gone up considerably resulting in about 100 admittances per annum. This was more than the staff could handle efficiently, and with the coming of retrenchment it has been found necessary to limit the admittances to 50 per year. In the year under report 82 candidates appeared for the B.Ag. degree and 56 were successful. In addition six candidates appeared for the Diploma and all passed. The number of

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Grading of Mangoes for Export.

students doing post-graduate work at this College during the year under report was five. Two of these succeeded in obtaining the M.Ag. and one obtained the M.Sc. degree.

The Vernacular Agricultural School at Devihosur completed its eighteenth year when 16 out of 20 candidates obtained the school certificate. Altogether there were 35 students on the roll. There were 92 applications for admission but, for reasons of accommodation, only 14 were admitted.

The Vernacular Agricultural School at Dhulia is also doing good work. During the year there were 33 students on the roll.

The Vernacular Agricultural School at Loni was closed, owing to retrenchment, in the year under report.

Apart from the regular education provided at the Poona Agricultural College and the Vernacular Agricultural Schools at Dhulia and Devihosur, the Department organises classes for giving instruction in special subjects, such as horticulture and tractor driving.

FINANCE

The expenditure of the Department in the year under report amounted to Rs. 12,91,444 as against Rs. 14,35,905 in the preceding year. The receipts fell from Rs. 2,22,374 in 1930–31 to Rs. 1,85,722 in the year under report owing to the fall in prices and the reduction of activities owing to retrenchment.

Subsidies were received from the Indian Central Cotton Committee amounting to Rs. 1,58,532 of which the expenditure was Rs. 1,38,493; Rs. 18,795 from the Sir Sassoon David Trustees and Rs. 61,973 from the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Sind

The inundation of the river Indus is the main factor of the agricultural season in Sind. During the year under report the river Indus rose late and consequently the inundation season was considerably delayed. As a result the irrigation supply was both late and irregular and unsatisfactory for both kharif and rabi cultivation.

Crop conditions.—The lateness of the inundation season was a severe handicap on favourable kharif cultivation. As a result, the acreage under cotton was reduced and its crop also suffered considerably from excessive flower and boll shedding due to unfavourable climatic conditions, at critical stages of

the growing period. Yields were, in consequence, less than normal. Jowar and Bajri sowings were carried out in time and these crops were generally satisfactory. In North Sind, the paddy crop yielded well with the exception of late varieties which suffered from scarcity of irrigation water and fungoid diseases. The irrigated wheat crop was good, especially in the Jamrao tract, where the early availability of water from the Barrage Canal Systems resulted in a considerable increase in the irrigated wheat area. On account of low rainfall, fodder supply was insufficient and, in some tracts, precarious. Much damage was caused to the jowar and sugar-cane crops by borer attack, as the prevailing climatic conditions were generally favourable to the development and extension of such insect pests.

Unfortunately the year under report witnessed no material improvement in the serious depression of the prices of all agricultural produce. Consequently, the economic condition of the cultivating classes in Sind showed no material improvement.

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

In Sind, as in all other parts of India, one of the commonest characteristics of the cultivated crop is the wide admixture of varieties which occur in the fields. As a result of such admixture, the sample of the produce is seldom uniform and, in general, its quality is low. The work of the Agricultural Department in crop improvement is therefore designed towards replacing the mixtures now grown by more efficient varieties which will bring more profit to the growers either on account of higher outturns, better quality or greater uniformity of produce. Three methods have been adopted to achieve this end in so far as purely botanical work is concerned. These are selection, acclimatisation and hybridization. The first two methods have been most successful in work with cotton and wheat while the third seems to show most promising results on the rice and jowar crops.

Cotton.—The year under report was not favourable for the cotton crop but replicated field scale trials have again emphasised the high yielding character of the improved Sind *deshi* variety 27 W.N. Of the improved Punjab-American varieties, the 285F and 289F types did well and, with regard to their definite superiority in staple length over the 4F types, must be preferred for extended cultivation under Barrage conditions.

Wheat.—The new selections from Sind wheats, viz., 258 G.S.W., H.S.W. III and 9 C. ph. W again yielded well in replicated tests with C. ph. 47 but further testing on a field scale is necessary before their real value can be satisfactorily assessed. The hybrid wheats between improved Sind varieties and pusa 12 were studied in the F3 generation and a new cross between C. ph. 47 and pusa 114 was made during the year under report.

Rice.—Eleven varieties of Burma rice were tried but proved to be very late in maturing and were poor yielders. Three varieties of Phillipine rice were grown but are not suited to Sind conditions. Of the old acclimatised varieties under study, Bengalo, a Bengal type, is a high yielder and it is much appreciated on account of its quality. It was grown in experimental plots on an area of an acre and yielded 1,500 lbs. Field trials of this variety are being conducted in the districts.

Pathological investigations into common diseases of the rice crop are being conducted at the Government Farm, Larkana.

Jowar.—Among fodder jowars the three "Turi" varieties of Sind have maintained their high yield of green fodder and are now being grown on Government farms and in the districts for seed multiplication.

Other Crops.—Special investigations into the economic possibilities of the cultivation of oil-seed and pulse crops in the Barrage areas have been started in the Botanical section at the Agricultural Research Station, Sakrand. The main object of this work is to ascertain whether improved varieties of oilseed and pulse crops can be cultivated as alternative money crops to cotton in the Left Bank tracts.

Bajri.—In view of the importance of the bajri crop in Sind which is not likely to diminish under perennial irrigation, it has been decided to undertake work on the botanical improvement of this crop in the Barrage areas. Some work has already been done in this direction at the Agricultural Research Station, Sakrand, where a variety of awned bajri, reputed to be locust and bird proof, is under study.

FINANCE

The expenditure of the Agricultural Department in Sind was Rs. 4,97,743 and the receipts Rs. 33,927. Subsidies were received from the Indian Central Cotton Committee and the Sir Sassoon David Trust Fund.

ADVANCES TO CULTIVATORS

Northern Division.—The amount advanced as takavi, during the year ending 30th September 1932, totalled Rs. 12,500 as against Rs. 41,600 during the preceding year. The decrease was due to financial stringency and less demand. The year opened with an outstanding balance of Rs. 71·43 lakhs, of which Rs. 17·15 lakhs were collected and about Rs. 26,000 written off. The unauthorised balance amounted to over Rs. 5 lakhs, Ahmedabad and Broach being chiefly responsible.

Central Division.—Takavi advances in this division amounted to Rs. 55,000 during the year as against Rs. 79,000, during the preceding year. The outstanding balance amounted to Rs. 14·46 lakhs, of which Rs. 2·41 lakhs were recovered, Rs. 1·78 lakhs suspended and Rs. 1·06 lakhs as unauthorised arrears. Ahmednagar district alone was responsible for an unauthorised arrear of Rs. 90,000.

Southern Division.—During the year Rs. 2·66 lakhs were collected representing 12·40 per cent. of the debt outstanding at the beginning of the year, as against 8·59 per cent. in the previous year. Takavi advances amounted to Rs. 1·71 lakhs (nearly a lakh in Bijapur district) as against Rs. 2·81 lakhs. About Rs. 35,000 were suspended.

Sind.—Takavi loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 96,000 as against Rs. 6·95 lakhs in the previous year. Of the total outstanding balance of Rs. 66·01 lakhs, Rs. 3·83 lakhs were collected. Suspensions decreased from Rs. 19·13 lakhs to Rs. 9·93 lakhs, all districts sharing in the decrease.

NOTE ON THE WEATHER

I. The period April and May 1931.—The total rainfall was in moderate excess in the Bombay Deccan in April and in large excess in Sind in May; Konkan had nearly a normal fall in April. Otherwise rainfall was in large defect. Both maximum and minimum temperatures were generally above normal in April.

II. The monsoon period, June to September 1931.—There was wide-spread rainfall till the 5th June in the south Konkan and the adjacent districts of the Bombay Deccan; but it weakened thereafter and almost disappeared from those areas till the 13th

when a revival of the monsoon current took place. It extended rapidly up to Gujarat between the 13th and 15th June and during the rest of the month was confined to the Konkan and the Bombay Deccan.

The following table gives the actual rainfall and its percentage departure from normal in each of the sub-divisions for the whole season :—

Sub-division	Season June to September	
	Actual.	Departure per cent.
Sind	1·91	— 65
Gujarat	33·57	+ 10
Konkan	127·76	+ 27
Bombay Deccan ..	29·10	+ 20

Rainfall was generally in defect in June ; in July it was normal in Gujarat, in moderate to large excess in the Konkan and the Bombay Deccan, and in large defect in Sind ; in August it was in moderate to large excess in the whole Presidency excepting Sind where it was in moderate defect, while during September the total rainfall was normal in the Konkan, in slight excess in the Bombay Deccan, and in moderate to large defect elsewhere.

Both maximum and minimum temperatures were above normal in Gujarat in June and in Sind in August ; maximum temperature alone was above normal in Gujarat in July and in the Bombay Deccan in June.

III. The retreating monsoon period, October to December.— Rainfall was in very large excess over the whole Presidency in October and in the Konkan and the Bombay Deccan in the next two months also. On the other hand weather was absolutely dry in Sind in November and December, while Gujarat had its normal fall in November and half the normal in December.

Both maximum and minimum temperatures were above normal in Sind in December, while minimum temperature alone was above normal in Sind and the Konkan in November ; on the other hand maximum temperature was below normal in the Bombay Deccan throughout the period and in Gujarat in October.

IV. The period January to March 1932.—In this period weather was abnormally dry. The only rain during January was a few falls in Sind on the 8th. February was slightly better, a few falls being received in Sind and the East Khandesh and

Surat districts on some days in the last week. There was a further improvement in March. Scattered thundershowers were received in the Bombay Deccan, Gujarat and Sind between the 1st and 3rd and from the 22nd to 25th. The total rainfall of March was in large excess in the Bombay Deccan ; with this exception rainfall was in large defect throughout the period.

Both maximum and minimum temperatures were above normal in Sind and Gujarat in January, and below it in the Bombay Deccan in February, maximum temperature alone being above normal in the Konkan in January and in Sind in February.

PRICES IN THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY IN 1931-32

RETAIL PRICES

The downward tendency in the level of retail prices continued during the year. Food grains, raw sugar (gul), milk and cocoanut oil recorded a further heavy fall. Tea, beef, mutton and ghee also declined, except in a few places, while refined sugar and salt showed a general rise in prices as compared with the previous year.

This further slump in prices was chiefly due to the severe trade depression all over the world and the general fall in the price levels. Its effect has been considerably to worsen the economic condition of the agriculturists in this Presidency.

Northern Division.—All the districts in this Division reported a decrease in the prices of food grains. In Broach, the rates for cotton—the chief crop of the District—were higher than in the preceding year but the agriculturists, who had enjoyed much higher rates in previous years, stored their cotton in the hope of realizing better prices, but these did not materialize and producers had to sell at a low rate towards the end of the season. In the Panch Mahals District, on the other hand, the price of maize, the principal crop of the Jhalod and Dohad talukas, remained very low and the Bhils, who usually go to Banias for seed, were able to reserve sufficient seed for sowing purposes without having recourse to the money lenders. In the Thana District, the agriculturists, who mainly depend upon the sale of paddy for their livelihood, were hard hit owing to a heavy fall in its price during the year under review. Consequently, a suspension of three annas in a rupee of agricultural assessment was given by Government in five talukas of the District.

Fire-wood, charcoal, grass and other necessaries of life also declined in price but there was no appreciable difference in the prices of the garden produce of this district such as plantains, betel-leaves etc.

Central Division.—The prices of food-stuffs continued to be generally very low throughout the year 1931–32 as compared with those of the preceding year. In the Ahmednagar and Khandesh districts, the prices of jowari and bajri went up a little towards the beginning of 1932 owing to unfavourable conditions of the crop in Khandesh. In the Malegaon sub-division of the Nasik District, the prices of the staple food grains were more or less stationary except in the case of bajri which was spoiled on account of the excessive rains of October and November and the condition of that crop materially affected the condition of the agriculturists. In Satara, the supply of fodder was reported to be sufficient throughout the District, the price of *kadbi* ranging from Rs. 3 to Rs. 7 per 100 sheaves. The price of jowari at Sholapur showed a tendency to rise after February 1932.

Southern Division.—In the Southern Division also, there was a further appreciable decrease in the prices of foodgrains in all the Districts. In Bijapur, the price of cotton reached the lowest depth and *kadbi* was also reported to be very cheap on account of sufficient stock. It was reported from Dharwar that the slump in prices of agricultural produce especially chillies and cotton had tended to reduce the purchasing capacity of the *rayats*. In Kanara, there was a rise in the prices of betelnut and cardamom owing to less outturn and greater demand during the year. The price of rice straw in the Kolaba District ranged from Rs. 2 to Rs. 6 per hundred bundles as against Rs. 2 to Rs. 5 in the previous year, the rise being due to insufficient supply.

Sind.—The low level of prices of food-stuffs which was due to depression of trade, tightness of the money market and decline in exports continued during the year under review as in the previous year. This adversely affected the agriculturists and as a measure of relief, Government sanctioned special remission of land revenue wherever necessary, e.g. to the extent of 25 per cent. in kharif and Rabi for Shahdadkot Taluka and 12½ per cent. in Rabi for the rest of the Larkana District. There was a marked fall in the price of *kadbi* at Hyderabad and Karachi.

The following table gives the index numbers of the retail prices of six foodgrains and eleven other food articles in each of the Divisions in the Presidency for the years 1930-31 and 1931-32 :—

Unweighted Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Seventeen Food Articles in each of the Divisions in the Bombay Presidency for the years 1930-31 and 1931-32 with the average prices during 1926-27 = 100

(*Note.*—The prices used in compiling the Index Numbers are those given in the *Bombay Government Gazette* and are for the grades most commonly used by persons of the clerical class in receipt of not more than Rs. 50 per mensem.)

Articles	Northern Division		Central Division		Southern Division		Sind		Bombay City	
	Index numbers for		Index numbers for		Index numbers for		Index numbers for		Index numbers for	
	1930-31	1931-32	1930-31	1931-32	1930-31	1931-32	1930-31	1931-32	1930-31	1931-32
Rice ..	80	65	80	62	77	56	63	54	93	75
Wheat ..	74	56	68	51	67	48	57	42	74	50
Jowari ..	67	44	66	42	73	47	69	49	83	60
Bajri ..	73	47	73	45	72	46	61	45	79	60
Gram ..	94	64	87	58	97	67	73	49	85	78
Turdal ..	86	66	87	70	91	73	87	71	88	72
Sugar (refined) ..	74	81	75	81	75	79	77	84	79	83
Sugar (raw) ..	79	68	86	68	80	65	80	64	80	74
Tea ..	91	79	89	75	88	84	102	101	98	98
Salt ..	102	103	94	94	99	105	94	101	78	80
Beef ..	96	89	100	91	80	80	98	92	82	82
Mutton ..	98	88	87	88	89	87	91	81	78	75
Milk ..	85	80	92	86	94	88	84	69	95	81
Ghee ..	87	92	88	79	89	80	79	68	96	92
Potatoes ..	72	77	72	73	81	80	74	71	91	76
Onions ..	61	71	56	54	62	60	81	87	61	58
Cocoanut oil ..	75	65	85	68	78	68	81	63	92	69

Working Class Cost of Living.—Taking the prices in July 1914 equal to 100, the weighted index number of retail prices of the six foodgrains included in the working class cost of living index number for Bombay City averaged 74 in 1931-32 as against 103 in 1930-31. The "Other food" index number went down from 163 to 148 during the same period. The cost of living index number stood at 109 in 1931-32 as compared with 129 in 1930-31. The Ahmedabad working class cost of living index number with the average prices for the year ended July 1927 equal to 100 declined from 83 in 1930-31 to 75 in 1931-32 while the Sholapur working class cost of living index number with the average prices

for the year ended January 1928 equal to 100 was 72 in 1931–32 as against 86 in 1930–31 :—

Working Class Cost of Living Index Numbers for Bombay, Ahmedabad and Sholapur by Groups

Groups	Bombay (Prices in July 1914=100)		Ahmedabad (Average prices from August 1926 to July 1927=100)		Sholapur (Average prices from February 1927 to January 1928 = 100)	
	1930–31	1931–32	1930–31	1931–32	1930–31	1931–32
Food	125	101	75	64	80	62
Fuel and lighting ..	142	144	92	88	111	107
Clothing	131	120	88	83	81	72
House-rent	158	158	102	107	100	100
Miscellaneous.. ..	..	..	100	100	86	77
Cost of Living ..	129	109	83	75	86	72

WHOLESALE PRICES

The wholesale prices index number for Bombay City, on base July 1914 equal to 100, stood at 109 in 1931–32 as against 119 in 1930–31. The "All-food" and "All non-foods" index numbers registered a fall of 16 and 7 points respectively. The most noticeable decreases being 26 points in Cereals, 19 points in Pulses, 15 points in Oilseeds, 16 points in Hides and skins and 12 points in Metals. The variations in the index numbers of the different groups included in the Bombay wholesale prices index number are set out in the following table :—

Group Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in Bombay City

(July 1914 = 100)

Groups	Annual average for 1930–31	Annual average for 1931–32	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in points in 1931–32 over or below 1930–31
Cereals	101	75	— 26
Pulses	102	83	— 19
Sugar	117	115	— 2
Other food	143	143	....
All food	112	96	— 16
Oil seeds	98	83	— 15
Cotton—Raw	82	74	— 8
Cotton—Manufactures	151	144	— 7
Other Textiles	92	90	— 2
Hides and Skins	152	136	— 16
Metals	124	112	— 12
Other raw and manufactured articles ..	131	141	+ 10
All Non-foods	123	116	— 7
All Articles	119	109	— 10

At Broach, the price of cotton ranged from Rs. 136 to Rs. 70 per *bhar* as against Rs. 110 to Rs. 60 per *bhar* in the previous year. The wholesale price of paddy in Kolaba ranged from Rs. 30 to Rs. 43 as against Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 per khandi in the previous year, the fall being due to less demand from places of export such as Bombay, Ratnagiri and Malbar.

The wholesale prices index number for Karachi, on base July 1914 equal to 100, went down by seven points to 96 during the year under review. The following table shows the changes in the food, non-food and general index numbers of wholesale prices in Karachi :—

Index Numbers of Wholesale Prices in Karachi

(July 1914 = 100)

Groups	Annual average for 1930-31	Annual average for 1931-32	Increase (+) or decrease (—) in points in 1931-32 over or below 1930-31
Food	96	90	— 6
Non-food	108	100	— 8
General	103	96	— 7

MOFUSSIL LABOUR AND WAGES 1931-32

The purchasing power of the rupee based on the Working Class Cost of Living Index for Bombay City, taken at 16 annas for the pre-war year, increased from 11 annas 8 pies in the year 1930 to 14 annas 7 pies during the year 1931. This marked appreciation in the purchasing power of the rupee is due to the almost continuous and rapid decline in the Cost of Living Index Number from January 1930 to December 1931. Expressed in terms of percentages, the Cost of Living Index was only 10 points higher in 1931 than in July 1914 while it was 37 points higher in 1930. The Cost of Living Index for Ahmedabad City with the average prices for the year ending July 1927 as base, fell from 87 in the year 1930 to 75 in the year 1931. The corresponding figures for Sholapur City (on base February 1927 to January 1928 = 100) were 92 and 73 respectively.

Taking the Presidency as a whole, the general downward tendency in the levels of agricultural and mofussil non-factory wages which had set in in 1930 was maintained during the year 1931. There was an all-round fall in the Presidency averages

of daily earnings of skilled, ordinary and field labour. The decreases were comparatively more pronounced in rural areas than in urban areas, except in the case of ordinary labour in the Central Division and skilled labour in the Southern Division. As compared with the previous year, the average daily wages of all classes of labour in 1931 declined by more than 10 per cent. except in the cases of skilled labour in the urban areas of all Divisions and in the rural areas of the Southern Division, and ordinary and field labour in the urban areas of the Southern Division. The following table gives the index numbers of average daily wages of all classes of labour in 1931 as compared with the previous year :—

Index Numbers of Daily Average Wages in 1931

(with 1930 wages as 100)

Divisions	1930 = 100					
	Field Labour		Unskilled (ordinary) Labour		Skilled Labour	
	Urban areas	Rural areas	Urban areas	Rural areas	Urban areas	Rural areas
Political Divisions—						
Northern Division	89	87	89	78	96	79
Central Division	82	80	83	84	93	84
Southern Division	94	80	93	78	93	93
Economic Circles—						
Gujarat Circle	86	83	85	73	95	75
Deccan Circle	84	81	86	84	92	88
Konkan Circle	98	81	95	84	100	92
Presidency Proper	88	82	88	81	94	84
Sind	88	76	89	88	91	85
Whole Presidency	88	82	88	83	93	84

There was no marked change in the general economic condition of the labouring classes during the year under report as compared with the previous year. The fall in the general level of wages due to economic depression, was counterbalanced by a corresponding fall in commodity prices, with the result that real wages were not materially affected. Thus the standard of life of the labourers remained unaltered during the year and their economic condition was fairly satisfactory, although they in common with others suffered from the effects of trade depression. Primary education still shows no signs of exerting any influence on the labour market in rural areas.

With the increasing mobility of labour owing to the development of transport facilities during recent years, the demand for and the supply of labour were easily adjusted almost throughout the year. The usual inter-District migration was, however, somewhat restricted owing to depression in trade, but there was no marked abatement in the usual inter-taluka movements during the harvesting season. In the Nasik District, Yeola town and Nagda and Andersul villages in Yeola Taluka were so badly hit by depression in trade, that about three thousand weavers had to leave their villages in search of employment elsewhere, and as many as 1,032 labourers were recruited from this district for the Assam tea plantations during the year. There was the usual migration of labour from the Thana, Ratnagiri and Satara districts to Bombay, Karachi and other big centres of trade, but most of those who went to Bombay had to return empty-handed owing to the disturbed conditions in the City. Immigrants from Cutch, Sind and other places, especially the United Provinces, into Karachi City supplemented the local supply of labour. A large number of workers who had migrated into Sukkur District in connection with the Sukkur Barrage Works had to leave on account of the completion of that Scheme. There was also a considerable reduction in the number of Shikarpuris who went out to Persia, Afghanistan and other countries. The position of the foreign labourer who formerly used to dictate his wages is reported to have been considerably weakened.

Agricultural Labour.—The average daily wages of field (agricultural) labour declined from 8 annas 3 pies to 7 annas 3 pies in urban areas and from 7 annas 3 pies to 5 annas 11 pies in rural areas, the percentage decreases being 12 and 18 respectively. In the Northern Division, the local labouring class of the Broach District is mainly composed of Kolis, Bhils, Talavias and persons from the depressed classes. In addition, a large number of workers from Kathiawar usually come to this district in search of employment during the cotton-picking season. Owing to scarcity of agricultural labour in the Bhiwandi and Palghar talukas of the Thana District during the transplanting and harvesting season, a large number of labourers had to be imported from the Nasik and Ahmednagar districts. In addition, fishermen living along the coast line were also employed during the agricultural season. The Kathodis in the interior of the district were employed by forest contractors for

manufacturing charcoal in the fair season and they either found employment as agricultural labourers or worked in their own fields during the rest of the year.

Field labour in the Central Division generally found ample work owing to the season having been fairly good. There was, however, a certain amount of unemployment in Sholapur District. Owing to a partial failure of crops and a late monsoon, there was shortage of employment for agricultural labour in some rural areas in East Khandesh for about a couple of months. Most of the labouring population of this district is engaged in agriculture and the remainder find employment in local gins and presses, in spinning and weaving mills and on Railway lines. Big agriculturists in West Khandesh are reported to find it difficult to obtain and retain " saldars " and to exact consistent work from them as they quit work without notice even after having received cash advances. The timber traffic in this district afforded employment to large numbers of Bhils and Mavachis of the Nawapur and Taloda talukas after the close of the agricultural operations. The sugarcane and ginning factories at Baramati in the Poona District also provided employment for labouring classes throughout the year.

In the Southern Division, the demand for field labour was on the whole equal to the supply. The *tagavi* works carried on in the Bijapur District afforded some scope for employment. It is reported that the cultivators in this district are now resorting more to improved methods of agriculture and the use of machines such as pumping plants, chaff-cutters, etc. with the object of reducing costs of labour. As the Supari crop in the Sirsi and Siddapur talukas in the Kanara District was considerably damaged by *koleroga* there was not much demand for labour, and there was a steep fall in the level of wages of field labour in that district. Wages in the Kolaba District, however, continued to remain high owing to the proximity of Bombay and the high cost of living.

Wages of agricultural workers in Sind declined during the year 1931 as compared with the year 1930, the percentage decrease being 24 in rural areas and 12 in urban areas. In the Nawabshah District, agricultural labourers who were employed for picking cotton, were paid in kind. The following table gives the average daily earnings of agricultural labour in urban

and rural areas by Divisions and Economic Circles and for the whole Presidency with and without Sind, for the years 1913, 1930 and 1931 :—

Daily Average Earnings of (Field) Agricultural Labour

Divisions	Daily average wages in								
	1913		1930		1931				
	Urban areas	Rural areas	Urban areas	Rural areas	Urban areas	Rural areas			
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.			
Political Divisions—									
Northern Division ..	0 4 9	0 3 9	0 10 2	0 7 5	0 9 1	0 6 5			
Central Division ..	0 5 0	0 4 3	0 7 6	0 7 7	0 6 2	0 6 1			
Southern Division ..	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 6 6	0 6 3	0 6 1	0 5 0			
Economic Circles—									
Gujarat Circle ..	0 4 6	0 3 9	0 9 7	0 7 10	0 8 3	0 6 6			
Deccan Circle ..	0 4 6	0 4 0	0 6 8	0 6 7	0 5 7	0 5 4			
Konkan Circle ..	0 5 3	0 4 6	0 10 11	0 8 1	0 10 9	0 6 7			
Presidency proper ..	0 4 9	0 4 0	0 8 0	0 7 1	0 7 0	0 5 10			
Sind	0 7 9	0 8 0	0 13 11	0 10 3	0 12 3	0 7 9			
Whole Presidency ..	0 4 9	0 4 3	0 8 3	0 7 3	0 7 3	0 5 11			

Unskilled (Ordinary) Labour.—The average daily earnings of ordinary labour both in urban and in rural areas declined during the year 1931 as compared with the year 1930, the decreases amounting to 12 per cent. in the case of urban areas and 17 per cent. in rural areas. A large portion of the labour available in the Thana District found employment in the rice-husking factories at Kalyan, Bhiwandi and Shahapur, the match factories at Ambernath and Thana and the railway powerhouse at Chola in the Kalyan Taluka. Several labourers, especially from the Bassein and Kalyan Talukas and the Thana Mahal, were attracted to Bombay where employment is more remunerative than in the districts. In the Kalyan and Bhiwandi Talukas, *Kumbhars* and *Dublas* from Kathiawar were imported for manufacturing bricks as they have been found to be more skilful and hard-working than the local labour. A small number of unskilled workers were also brought from Nasik and other places for agricultural operations such as levelling land, erecting bunds etc. The factories and mills in Broach District afforded a large field of employment to this class of labour throughout the year.

In the Central Division, the average daily wages of unskilled labour recorded decreases amounting to 16 per cent. in rural areas and to 17 per cent. in urban areas. A large number of workers in the Nasik District found sufficient work in the Railway Workshops at Igatpuri, Manmad and Nandgaon, the Government Central Distillery at Nasik Road, the Security Printing Press and the Electric Supply Company at Nasik and Deolali. The ginning and pressing factories in the district, the Forest Department Saw Mill at Musala in the Peint Taluka, as also bidi-making, silk-weaving and the gold and silver-thread manufacturing industries also provided ample scope for employment. In East Khandesh, the spinning and weaving mills at Jalgaon, Amalner and Chalisgaon, the railway workshop at Bhusawal and building activities in Jalgaon, Bhusawal and Amalner afforded adequate work for labourers throughout the year. Labour in the Sholapur District was able to find work in the cotton mills at Sholapur and Barsi which, despite unsettled conditions of trade, worked all through the year with their respective normal complements.

In the Southern Division, the average daily wages earned by unskilled labour decreased by 22 points in rural areas and by 7 points in urban areas. In the Belgaum District, the gins and presses at Bail-Hongal attracted, as usual, a large number of workers from villages in the Bail-Hongal and Parasgad Talukas. The military works started at Belgaum provided work for labourers from some neighbouring villages. The demand for labour for the cotton mills at Saundatti was satisfied from local supplies. Labourers in the Khanapur Taluka found sufficient employment in tile works, rice mills, forest cuttings and the railway workshops in that taluka. In the Bijapur District, the cotton ginning and pressing factories afforded good employment particularly on account of an adequate supply of raw cotton. The influx of millhands from Bombay on account of trade depression and generally disturbed conditions in the City resulted in lowering wages in the Ratnagiri District.

In Sind also, there was a fall in the rates of wages of ordinary labour both in urban and rural areas. The average daily wages of unskilled workers declined by 11 points in urban areas and by 12 points in rural areas. The average daily wages in urban areas amounted to 12 annas and 8 pies but in some places the unskilled labourer was able to get as much as a rupee per day.

The following table shows the average daily wages of unskilled labour in the same way as for agricultural labour :—

Daily Average Earnings of Unskilled (Ordinary) Labour

Divisions	Daily average wages in 1913		Daily average wages in 1930		Daily average wages in 1931	
	Urban areas	Rural areas	Urban areas	Rural areas	Urban areas	Rural areas
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Political Divisions—						
Northern Division ..	0 5 3	0 4 3	0 12 10	0 9 3	0 11 5	0 7 3
Central Division ..	0 5 9	0 4 6	0 8 11	0 7 6	0 7 5	0 6 4
Southern Division ..	0 5 9	0 4 9	0 9 5	0 8 1	0 8 9	0 6 4
Economic Circles—						
Gujarat Circle ..	0 5 3	0 4 0	0 11 11	0 9 7	0 10 1	0 7 0
Deccan Circle ..	0 5 9	0 4 6	0 8 9	0 7 3	0 7 6	0 6 1
Konkan Circle ..	0 6 3	0 5 3	0 12 5	0 9 0	0 11 10	0 7 7
Presidency Proper ..	0 5 9	0 4 6	0 10 1	0 8 2	0 8 10	0 6 7
Sind	0 8 0	0 7 3	0 14 3	0 11 7	0 12 8	0 10 2
Whole Presidency ..	0 6 3	0 5 3	0 11 2	0 9 1	0 9 10	0 7 6

Skilled Labour.—As compared with the previous year, the average daily earnings of skilled labour decreased both in urban and in rural areas, in common with those of ordinary and field labour. The percentage fall was not more than nine except in the rural areas of Sind and of the Northern and Central Divisions. The average daily wage was highest in the urban areas of Sind where it amounted to Rs. 2-3-2 and it was lowest in the urban areas of the Southern Division where it amounted to Rs. 1-1-5. In the Northern Division the wages paid to skilled labour declined as compared with the previous year, but in certain parts of this Division a skilled worker could earn as much as Rs. 2 per day. In Surat District, many skilled artisans, such as, carpenters and masons, were thrown out of employment owing to depression in trade. In Vada Peta of the Thana District, however, carpenters and masons were imported from Bassein and Kalyan Talukas during the fair season. The extensive salt-pans in the Bassein Taluka and Thana Mahal continued to provide work for a large number of artisans as in the past and their daily wages ranged from Re. 1 to Rs. 2-8-0. In the Central Division, skilled labour obtained sufficient employment in the Poona District in connection with building and repair work and in road construction and drainage in Poona City and in the newly developed suburban areas. Owing

to the reduction in the prices of building materials, there was an appreciable increase in building activities in the Bombay Suburban District. In Sind the skilled labourer in certain parts of Larkana District was able to get as much as Rs. 2-14-0 a day. The following table sets out the average daily wages paid to skilled labour in the various parts of the Presidency in the same way as in the case of agricultural and ordinary labour :—

Daily Average Earnings of Skilled Labour

Divisions	Daily average wages in					
	1913		1930		1931	
	Urban areas	Rural areas	Urban areas	Rural areas	Urban areas	Rural areas
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Political Divisions—						
Northern Division ..	0 13 9	0 11 9	2 0 5	1 9 2	1 15 0	1 3 10
Central Division ..	0 13 0	0 10 6	1 8 0	1 5 1	1 6 3	1 1 8
Southern Division ..	0 10 9	0 9 9	1 2 9	1 4 1	1 1 5	1 2 7
Economic Circles—						
Gujarat Circle ..	0 13 6	0 11 9	1 15 8	1 7 10	1 14 1	1 1 11
Deccan Circle ..	0 11 9	0 10 0	1 5 1	1 3 11	1 3 4	1 1 6
Konkan Circle ..	0 13 9	0 11 3	1 13 6	1 13 7	1 13 6	1 11 1
Presidency Proper ..	0 12 6	0 10 9	1 9 0	1 6 2	1 7 6	1 2 8
Sind	1 4 6	1 2 0	2 6 10	2 1 0	2 3 2	1 11 11
Whole Presidency ..	0 13 9	0 11 9	1 11 3	1 8 1	1 9 5	1 4 2

FORESTS

For purposes of administration the Presidency is divided into four Forest Circles, which are in charge of Conservators. The Chief Conservator is at the head of the Department.

Forest administration is a branch of the general administration and the central authority in forest matters is the Commissioner of a Division, subject to the general orders of Government. The Chief Conservator is the local and technical head of the Forest Department and the technical adviser of Government in forest matters. Forest Officers in charge of Circles have full powers in all professional operations of technical forestry; but in all other matters, such as those of rights and privileges of the people in forests, local supply of grass, grazing and fodder and generally as regards the relation of the department with the people, control vests in the local revenue officers. A Working Plans Division is maintained in each Circle and the duties of the

working plans divisional officers are to ascertain the capabilities of the forests in the production of timber and other forest produce and to prepare scientific schemes for the exploitation of the forests so that they may be worked for the greatest benefit both of the State and the people. The work in connection with the preparation of working plans is generally well advanced but revision of plans is carried on continuously. The classification of forests into forest proper fuel and fodder reserves and pastures has been completed in all Circles and the areas classed as pastures have been transferred to the Revenue Department for management.

The area under " Forests " in this Presidency is nearly 15,000 square miles.

Financially the year under review was better than its predecessor, though the total receipts were considerably less than those of a pre-1930 average year. The continuance of trade depression accentuated by political unrest prevented the realisation of normal revenues. Although in some divisions higher prices were obtained for the better class coupes, prices for timber at the sale depots both in the Northern and Southern Circles did not show any improvement. Moreover the demand for timber was less, causing heavy accumulations of stocks in the Dangs, Dandeli and Hattikeri Depots. The sandalwood market showed a slight improvement but prices for fuel and charcoal were very dull, particularly in the Sind Circle.

The gross revenue of the year rose by Rs. 4·50 lakhs to Rs. 56·74 lakhs but was less by Rs. 14·29 lakhs than the average of the preceding five years. The surplus showed an increase as compared with the previous year but was less than the average of the previous quinquennium by Rs. 11·92 lakhs. The increase was shared by the Northern and Central Circles but was partly counter-balanced by a decrease in the Southern and Sind Circles. Although the financial results were distinctly more favourable than in the previous year, the revenue realised was much below normal. There are, however, indications that a gradual improvement will take place.

The expenditure decreased from Rs. 42·45 lakhs to Rs. 40·67 lakhs and was chiefly due to postponement of works and restricting expenditure to urgent items only and to savings effected by the 10 per cent. emergency cut in the pay of Government servants.

Communications and Buildings.—Construction work was in progress on 68 miles of new roads and repairs were carried out on 1,377 miles of old roads. The total expenditure on roads

and bridges was Rs. 1·34 lakhs as against a total of Rs. 2·28 lakhs in the previous year, and the total expenditure on buildings was Rs. 29,000 as against Rs. 53,700 in the previous year.

Forest Offences.—There was an increase by 2,693 to 22,987 in the total number of offences against Forest laws, all the four Circles contributing thereto. Offences under " Injury by Fire " showed a decrease, while those under " Unauthorized Fellings " showed an increase. In the previous year much of the time of the staff was taken up in combating the Civil Disobedience movement and efficient patrolling of the forests was impossible. The increase is also partly attributed to the after-effects of the Civil Disobedience Movement and to the economic depression of the poorer classes.

The total number of offences under " Unauthorized Grazing " increased from 6,382 to 6,525. The Divisions chiefly responsible for the increase were Panch Mahals, Dharwar, Bijapur, Shikarpur, Hyderabad and Karachi. The attitude of the villagers of Godhra Taluka in the Panch Mahals Division is reported to be defiant. The offenders in some cases are, with the permission of the District Magistrate, being prosecuted with a view to deterrent punishment as this taluka alone is responsible for a large number of offences. It is hoped that this measure will contribute to a decrease in cases of deliberate trespass. The increase in the Thana Division is attributed to deliberate grazing of cattle in closed forests.

Out of the 22,987 offences, 19,206 cases were compounded and compensation amounting to Rs. 1·27 lakhs was recovered in 18,516 cases, the average per case being Rs. 6·9 as compared with Rs. 7·9 in the previous year. Offenders in 690 cases were let off with a warning and in 3,813 or 15 per cent. of the new and pending cases the offenders were not detected.

There was an appreciable reduction in the number of fires and in the acreage burnt in the Northern and Central Circles but an increase in the Southern and Sind Circles. Owing to late rains the forests remained immune from fire. Moreover the villagers generally co-operated in extinguishing fires as a result of warnings given by Collectors. For increase in the area burnt in the Southern Circle, the Dharwar-Bijapur Division was responsible and was mainly due to the indifferent and lawless attitude of the villagers brought on by the Civil Disobedience movement. The practice of villagers in this Division to fire forests in order to obtain an early growth of grass is said to be still active.

The reason for the increase in the Sind Circle is stated to be due to the low inundation and absence of rain during 1931 leaving large areas dry and highly inflammable.

Protection from Cattle.—The forest areas open and closed to grazing were as follows :—

	Sq. Miles.	Per cent.
Closed to all animals for the whole year ..	1,419	9·54
Closed to all animals for part of the year ..	307	2·07
Open to all animals except browsers for the whole year.	9,663	64·99
Open to all animals except browsers for part of the year.	12	0·08
Open to all animals for the whole year ..	3,444	23·16
Open to all animals for part of the year ..	23	0·16
Total ..	14,868	..

The area open to grazing was generally sufficient and closure was relaxed as usual in cases of real hardship. The number of cattle admitted to grazing was 2,326,987 as against 2,151,405 in the preceding year. The number of cattle impounded for unauthorised grazing in open and closed forests was 100,206 while 609,141 were allowed free.

The grazing fees collected during the year amounted to Rs. 4·83 lakhs as compared with Rs. 4·93 lakhs in the previous year, the value at full rates being Rs. 21·24 lakhs. The decrease for which the Central Circle alone was responsible, was due to the fact that last year owing to political agitation timely payment of grazing fees was not always made, and the fees had to be recovered subsequently at double the normal rates.

Silviculture.—The areas artificially regenerated continued to show satisfactory progress. In the Northern Circle some of the older plantations in the Dangs are practically established and exceedingly promising. In the Central Circle old plantations showed satisfactory progress. In Sind the year was marked by a low inundation of short duration causing a large area of forest, normally flooded, to remain high and dry. Pre-inundation sowings did not germinate but post inundation sowings gave satisfactory results particularly in areas which in years of high floods usually received too great a depth of water. The area flooded was 220,020 acres compared with 571,500 acres last year and 630,637 acres the year before.

Exploitation.—During the year 2,669,000 cubic feet of timber and fuel were extracted departmentally, together with sandalwood worth about Rs. 1,33,214 and minor produce, grass, etc., to the value of Rs. 6,803.

The actual outturn of major and minor produce removed by consumers and purchasers during the year 1931-32 was :—

	Rs.
Major produce	
(1) Timber—5,068,000 cubic feet, valued at ..	19,17,382
(2) Fuel—36,593,000 cubic feet, valued at ..	4,87,422
Minor produce	
(3) Bamboos—valued at	1,44,821
(4) Grass and Grazing—valued at	6,55,487
(5) Other minor produce—valued at about ..	1,35,265
Making a total for minor produce of ..	9,35,573

The outturn from all sources of forest produce during 1931-32 was :—

	Cubic feet.
Timber	6,863,000
Fuel	45,920,000

The total expenditure on the management of State Forests was Rs. 15,44,354 as against Rs. 16,48,718 in the previous year. The decrease was chiefly due to less expenditure on communications and buildings in all Circles.

CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT

General Progress and Season.—The year was singularly adverse to the progress of the Movement owing to the unsatisfactory agricultural season and the phenomenal fall in commodity prices. The policy of weeding out bad and hopelessly managed societies was continued during the year. This, coupled with the fact that fresh registration was sparingly allowed, accounts for the reduction in the number of Societies by 18 and in membership by 3,260. However, in spite of the adverse circumstances, the working capital of all Societies, which now amounts to nearly 14 crores and a half, shows an increase of over 50 lakhs over the last year's figure. The total Reserve Fund similarly records an increase of nearly 7 lakhs and now amounts to over a crore of rupees. The position in regard to the Owned capital (consisting of the members' deposits, share capital and the Reserve Fund) practically remains the same and is now 61·6 per cent. of the total working capital.

Working of Agricultural Credit Societies.—A strict policy of consolidation and rectification was followed as regards Agricultural Societies and as a result, 144 were cancelled during the year. Fresh registrations were only allowed either to make the Supervising Unions Scheme self-supporting or where the

Societies proposed showed a definite promise of success. Ninety-seven Agricultural Credit Societies were registered during the year.

The percentage of overdues for the whole Presidency has increased from 39 to 48. The largest increase is in the West and East Khandesh Districts and the least, i.e. 2 per cent. in Sind. The chief factor is the phenomenal fall in commodity prices and land values. The agriculturist has found his liabilities to have appreciated greatly owing to the fluctuations in value, while his repaying capacity has nearly halved. The delay in the execution of awards has also had a demoralizing effect in certain cases. The appointment of Special Recovery Officers during this year will to a great extent solve this difficulty.

The three Land Mortgage Banks continued to do good business with their limited means. The Bhil Societies in the Panch Mahals and West Khandesh are on the whole doing good business, while the Societies for the depressed and aboriginal classes continue to make satisfactory progress.

Working of Agricultural Non-Credit Societies.—Of the Agricultural Non-Credit Societies, Cotton Sale Societies are the most important. There were 23 such Societies, which sold 335,294 maunds of cotton and realized Rs. 26·4 lakhs. The Purchase and Sale Unions worked at a profit, except the Sale Union at Kurduwadi. The Sidenur Cattle Breeding Society continues to be the best of its kind. The number of Taluka Development Associations is 80. These continue to do useful work in popularizing the use of improved seed, manure and implements.

Provincial and District Central Banks.—The Provincial Co-operative Bank continues to be the best managed Co-operative Bank in the Presidency. The number of District Central Banks remained unchanged during the year. The working capital of these Banks rose from Rs. 305 lakhs to Rs. 318 lakhs, and their Reserve Fund from Rs. 6·08 lakhs to Rs. 7·11 lakhs.

Non-Agricultural Credit Societies.—The number of Non-Agricultural Credit Societies has gone up to 636. Of these 91 are Urban Banks with a working capital of over Rs. 50,000. Their working capital rose from Rs. 324 lakhs to Rs. 357 lakhs. Almost all the Non-Agricultural Credit Societies whether working on communal lines or those meant for salary-earners are showing satisfactory progress and there is sufficient material

for making a statement that the Urban Credit Movement as a whole in this Province is progressing on sound lines.

The Bombay Provincial Co-operative Insurance Society.—The Society continues to do useful work. It has issued 288 policies assuring the sum of Rs. 2·07 lakhs.

Consumers' Movement.—There has not been much progress shown by the Consumers' Movement. Only a few stores are working well. The outstanding example of these stores is the Gujarat Ladies Sahakari Bhandar. The South Indian Co-operative Consumers' Society continues to progress satisfactorily. The number of Housing Societies rose from 79 to 83.

Producers' Movement.—The number of Producers' Societies remains unchanged. Most of them worked at a loss. The Weavers' Societies also suffered badly on account of the present trade depression and out of 53 Societies 21 worked at a loss.

The Provincial Co-operative Institute.—During the year there was an increase of 124 and a decrease of 14 respectively in the membership of Societies and individuals. Co-operative schools were conducted at Poona, Dharwar and Surat and classes were held by almost all the District Branches.

HORTICULTURE

PUBLIC GARDENS

Bombay Municipal Gardens.—Ten gardens, twenty-three open spaces, two fountains, two band-stands and the Queen's Statue opposite the Improvement Trust office were maintained during the year. One new recreation ground was taken over from the Improvement Trust.

The number of visitors to the Victoria Gardens was 2,008,558 against 1,924,203, showing an increase of 84,355. The average attendance per day was 5,766. During the year 133 band programmes and 21 Indian concerts were held as against 129 and 25 respectively in the preceding year.

Empress and Bund Gardens, Poona.—The economical and educational value of these Gardens, which are maintained by the Agri-Horticultural Society of Western India, cannot be too highly estimated. They are an asset of great value to Poona. The receipts of the Empress Gardens for the year 1931–32 were Rs. 17,171 and the expenditure Rs. 19,643. The receipts and expenditure of the Bund Gardens amounted to Rs. 1,201 and Rs. 2,961 respectively.

CHAPTER VI

TRADE AND COMMERCE

INDUSTRIES

NORTHERN DIVISION.—There were 88 Cotton Spinning, Weaving and other Mills in Ahmedabad on 1st August 1931 and 5 new Mills were added during the year. The number at the end of the year thus stood at 93. Working conditions in the mills were good and in spite of general depression in trade, the textile industry of Ahmedabad continued to prosper.

Of the two mills at Nadiad in the Kaira District, one (the Manor Mill) remained closed throughout the year, as before, owing to financial difficulties, while the other (the New Shorrock Mill) continued to work and is in a flourishing condition. There were 33 Ginning factories and presses in the Kaira District, six of which did not work during the year for want of sufficient cotton. The hand-spinning and hand-weaving industry carried on by the backward class of people in Borsad, is dying out. There is one milk-dairy at Anand, and 86 creameries in Anand, Borsad and Nadiad talukas. There are two Match factories in the District, one at Umreth and the other at Anand.

In the Panch Mahals, the principal trade is in timber and grain. The groundnut and flour mills continued to work well. The working of the factories and presses was moderate during the year. Dohad continued as usual to be an important grain market. The export of grain, timber and forest produce continued, but on account of depression in trade, the business was slack.

In Broach, cotton is the chief product and constitutes the important trade of the District. There were 42 ginning factories and 12 presses during the year. Out of these, 32 ginning factories and 11 presses worked for about 3 months and the rest remained closed. The mill-industry in Broach showed healthy activity.

In Surat, cotton is the principal product and two Cotton Mills, 30 ginning factories and 13 presses worked during the year. The local silk and embroidery business is declining owing to political unrest, agitation and general depression in trade.

In Thana, rice—the principal product of the District—to the value of about Rs. 26 lakhs was exported exclusive of paddy which was exported to the extent of 7 lakhs. Plantains worth about 6 lakhs of rupees and betel-leaves worth about 10 lakhs of rupees were exported to Bombay and other places during the year, a striking increase over the total export of 9 lakhs during the preceding year. Grass to the value of Rs. 10 lakhs was exported during the year. The iron workshop at Bhiwandi which manufactures machinery and other accessories for rice mills and implements for labourers continued to work as usual and made fairly good progress. The Match factory at Thana exported matches worth about 6 lakhs of rupees.

Central Division.—The general depression continued during the year and had an adverse effect on trade, the principal articles of which in the division are grain, cotton and oil seeds particularly groundnut, which grows in abundance in the Sholapur, East Khandesh and parts of the Satara districts. Jaggery is the most important article of trade in the irrigated tracts of the Ahmednagar and Poona districts but owing to the low prices of this commodity prevailing throughout the year cane growers were badly hit and in many cases could not operate at a profit. This tended to reduce the area under sugarcane. Similarly, owing to a fall in prices and constant fluctuations in the cotton market, there has been a growing tendency to give up the cultivation of cotton and to grow groundnut instead as though the price of groundnut was also low the fall was small as compared with that of cotton.

With the addition of one oil mill during the year the number of oil mills in East Khandesh rose to 31. All these mills are reported to have carried on a fairly flourishing business. In Satara the outturn of the groundnut crop was adversely affected by excessive rains.

There are 5 cotton spinning and weaving mills in East Khandesh (two at Jalgaon, two at Amalner and one at Chalisgaon), one each in Poona and Dhulia and 8 in the Sholapur District (7 at Sholapur and 1 at Barsi). There are besides two spinning mills at Barsi. Except the Bhagirth Mill at Jalgaon all the mills in East Khandesh did fair business during the year. The new Pratap Spinning and Weaving Mill at Dhulia is reported to be working well. This year it produced cloth weighing 2,205,891 lbs. as against 1,908,594 lbs. in the previous year. The Raja Bahadur Mills at Poona produced a good supply of cloth which had a ready local market.

As regards the mill industry at Sholapur, the Collector remarks: "During the year under report there were considerable fluctuations in the cotton market, owing to which the selling of cloth became a difficult problem as merchants were not inclined to commit themselves to any but very safe transactions. Moreover the extremely large and increasing imports of cheap Japanese cloth and yarn told adversely on the market; but with all these difficulties, the Sholapur mill industry continued to be flourishing and it is hoped that the protection afforded by Government against Japanese competition will help the mill industry considerably and that the Sholapur mills will be able to show very good results."

The Sugar Factory at Belapur is flourishing and manufacturing sugar of a superior quality.

The Match Factory at Chalisgaon commenced work during the year. The workshop attached to the spinning and weaving mills at Chalisgaon and the Iron Foundry at Pachora had a moderate business during the year. There are two Ice Factories in East Khandesh, one at Jalgaon and the other at Bhusawal. These work for four months in summer only. The Tannery at Bhusawal and the Cooper Engineering Works near Satara Road Railway Station which manufacture agricultural implements are reported to have done well during the year. The textile branch of the Phadke Industrial Works at Karad was closed during the year for want of demand for the saris manufactured there. But articles of iron such as ploughs and cots continued to be made in these works as in the previous year.

Southern Division.—The chief industry of the division is agriculture, and trade is mostly confined to the export of agricultural products. Among the few non-agricultural industries and allied trades may be mentioned the handloom industry, which is general in the division, the saw mills of Kanara, the brass and copper industry of Kolaba and Dharwar, the salt works at Sanikatta (Kanara) and Uran (Kolaba). Glass bangles and perfumery are manufactured on a small scale in the Belgaum District. In each of the districts of Belgaum, Kanara and Ratnagiri there is a tile factory. Rice hulling mills number 69 in Kolaba.

The agriculturist had a poor year owing to poor prices of cotton. The competitive rates offered by the Bail-Hongal ginners in the Belgaum District, were responsible for the poor outturn of gins and presses at Saundatti in the same district. The Spice trade of Kanara was not satisfactory and handlooms had a lean year.

The soap factories in Bijapur and Kolaba districts did well, as did the Pharmacy at Panvel in the Kolaba District. The cashew nuts roasted and shelled in Malvan and Vengurla in Ratnagiri District were valued at Rs. 4,20,467 and Rs. 1,95,000 respectively. The rice mills in Ratnagiri and Kolaba had a lean year and the export of rice to Bombay was fitful, mainly because of the low level of prices.

Sind.—Local trade showed no improvement on account of trade depression brought about by the slump in prices and the tightness of the money market.

There was no appreciable change in the industrial life of the people with the exception of 5 new rice husking factories opened in the Karachi District. In the Hyderabad District, however, the number of cotton ginning and rice husking factories decreased by two. Two cotton ginning factories—one Government and the other private—in Thar Parkar District did not work, apparently on account of low outturn of cotton. The wheat grinding and the oil pressing industries are in good condition. The number of oil pressing machines increased by one in the Thar Parkar District. The two leather tanneries at Pano Akil are reported not to be paying owing to the general depression of trade. The brass and copper industries at Khairpur Dahirki are also languishing. The fish bone crushing factory at Malir did reasonably well, the manure prepared therefrom being exported to the Deccan.

The small indigenous cloth industry, however, received some stimulus on account of the swadeshi and Buy Indian movements. The two silk cloth industries at Rohri are doing well. The manufacture of woollen farasis (carpets) and similar articles in the rural area is reported to be declining owing to the competition of machine-made articles. The Century Flour Mill at Shikarpur has been closed but a new big flour mill called the Dembla Mill has been opened at Sukkur. The Silk factory on the Sind Canal Road at Shikarpur has been restarted under different management.

The industry of weaving silk lungis and susis at Tatta is gradually declining for want of custom.

Bombay Suburban District.—The important factories in the district are :—

(1) Match factories at Santa Cruz, Andheri, Kurla and Ambernath.
(2) Dyeing factories at Chembur and Kurla.
(3) Textile Mills at Kurla.
(4) Litho-Printing Press at Ghatkopar.

(5) Iron Manufacturing concern at Mulund started by Messrs. Braithwaite and Company.

(6) Bangle factory at Kandivli.

All these had more or less a normal year.

The lime stone quarry business has considerably deteriorated owing to the competition of cement which is available at moderately low prices.

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES

The commercial and industrial depression mentioned in last year's report continued and became more acute. India's trade, along with that of other countries, declined further below the low level of the previous year. Commodity prices continued to decline, until towards the end of the year 1931 when, consequent on Great Britain going off the gold standard and on the decision to maintain the Indian currency standard on a sterling basis at one rupee equal to 1*s.* 6*d.*, the rupee prices of Indian commodities improved to some extent. The prices were still, however, considerably below those obtaining 3 years back. The purchasing power of the agriculturists, therefore, continued to be very restricted during the year. This state of things which was due to world causes was further aggravated so far as India is concerned by the local political conditions.

The Commercial and Industrial Intelligence branch of the Department continued to be both popular and useful. As usual enquiries from abroad for opening commercial relationships with Indian firms were transferred to the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta. Enquiries from Indian firms for opening trade relationships with British firms were transferred to H. M. Trade Commissioner, Bombay.

Commencing from 1st April 1931 the control of Technical and Industrial Education was transferred to the Director of Industries from the Director of Public Instruction.

DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIES

Cotton Textile Industry.—Cotton Industry in this Presidency has been in recent years passing through trying times. This specially applies to the mills in the Island of Bombay. So far as the year under review is concerned, out of 41 Bombay Island mills, no less than 27 showed a loss in working, the total loss being some Rs. 42 lakhs. In Sholapur 4 mills showed a profit of Rs. 6·55 lakhs.

During the year 1930, the Ahmedabad mills did not fare well. Sixty-one mills with a block capital of Rs. 15·35 crores made a profit of Rs. 48·38 lakhs. Some of the mills also showed

a loss of Rs. 20·45 lakhs during this period. If this loss is deducted from the net profits of the other mills, then the net profits would be reduced to Rs. 28 lakhs.

Woollen Industry.—The condition of the woollen industry continued to be unsatisfactory during the year. In 1931 there were two woollen mills in the Presidency as against five in 1920. The total production during 1930 was 1,691,242 lbs. valued at Rs. 30,91,787 whereas in the year 1931 the total product on was 1,754,352 lbs. valued at Rs. 22,11,159. This sharp decline in value as compared with the increase in quantity has been due to a big fall in the prices of woollen piecegoods during the year under review. Imports of woollens in Bombay and Karachi increased from Rs. 74·91 lakhs in 1930–31 and Rs. 87·75 lakhs in 1931–32.

Chemical Industry.—The chemical industry except the heavy chemical industry in the Presidency on the whole did fairly well during the year. The soap factories worked at their full capacity and some new soap works were started during the year. The pharmaceutical manufactures also did fairly well. The makers of toilet goods like cold creams, snows, hair oils, perfumes, etc., are reported to have done well, and several new products like tooth paste, shaving cream, shampoos, etc., which were formerly not produced in this Presidency are now being manufactured satisfactorily.

Sugar Industry.—Two sugar factories were working in the Presidency during the year under report. The sugar factory mentioned in the last year's report produced 6,985 tons of white sugar during the season of 1931. Its sales also increased in value from Rs. 15·89 lakhs to Rs. 23·27 lakhs. The other sugar factory is yet in an experimental stage.

Match Industry.—During the year there were 13 factories in the British Districts and 2 in the Indian States. The total approximate investment in the industry is about Rs. 68 lakhs including the Western India Match Company's estimated investment of Rs. 32 lakhs. The total capacity of all the factories is about 88 lakhs gross match-boxes per year.

Paper Industry.—There are three paper mills in this Presidency. The year under report was the first year that the industry did fairly well. The production of paper increased by about 14 per cent.

Cigarette Industry.—Cigarette Manufacture attracted a number of investors during the year. In spite of the general trade depression the increase in cigarette factories was over

100 per cent. The annual local production of cigarettes in the 11 factories is worth approximately about Rs. 16·4 lakhs or about 32·6 per cent. of total annual imports, valued at Rs. 50·28 lakhs, in the Bombay Presidency.

New Industries.—During the year under report some new industries were started including false pearls and glass beads, carbon papers, typewriter ribbons and stamp pads, manufacture of pickers, casein products and split pulleys.

The Real Gold Thread Industry.—To assist cottage manufacturers of gold thread in the technique of manufacture, an improved type of machine was designed and constructed by the Department for gilding, winding, and drying the gold thread and was demonstrated at Government expense to the gold thread manufacturers of the Bombay Presidency at Surat and Poona. The machine has enabled the manufacturer to improve the quality of his gold thread by increasing the lustre and softness of his thread, keeping a uniform shade and economising in the working and manufacturing costs of gold gilding.

Efforts were also made by the Department for the improvement of the Glass Bangle Industry and of the indigenous Soap Industry in Gujarat, for refining of sardine oil and indigenous Natural Soda, for the preparation of Tallow Substitute and Straw Boards and for the manufacture of Essential Oils.

Cottage Industries.—Hand Weaving is the most important single cottage industry of this Presidency, there being about 100,000 handlooms at work with production valued at about Rs. 4·5 crores per annum. The Department, therefore, continued to concentrate its attention chiefly on this industry. Improved appliances and methods in hand weaving, dyeing and calico printing were popularised. Schools were conducted by the Department, both for *bona fide* weavers and for agriculturists, and small scholarships were given for exemplary attendance and excellent work. It is gratifying to note that these schools are proving popular and that the students after completion of the course usually set up their own looms and start work themselves. There were seven such weaving schools for *bona fide* weavers under the control of the Department. All were peripatetic institutions and transferred from one place to another when their work at a particular centre was over. The Weaving Schools for Agriculturists were maintained

exclusively for agriculturists with a view to train them in hand weaving by improved methods so that they can earn something during their spare time and thus add to their income. During the year under report two such schools were maintained—one in the Southern Division and another in the Northern Division. In addition to the weaving schools the Department maintained 11 cotton weaving demonstrations for *bona fide* weavers. The Government Hand-Weaving Institute, Poona, which has been established for teaching advanced and artisan courses to educated students is also doing useful work.

Scholarships.—One scholarship for practical training in Electrical Engineering was awarded during the year under report. No new State Scholarship tenable abroad was awarded during the year under review.

The total expenditure of the Department amounted to Rs. 3,67,019 as against Rs.1,23,715 last year, the increase being due to the inclusion of the grant from Technical Education.

THE FACTORIES ACT

The number of factories subject to the control of the Factories Act increased during the year 1931 from 1,785 to 1,795, 90 factories being added to and 80 being removed from the Register. A notable addition was of five cotton mills in Ahmedabad. The number of factories that actually worked was 1,541 compared with 1,550 in the previous year. Of these 794 were perennial and 747 seasonal. Two hundred and twenty-nine of the perennial and 628 of the seasonal factories were connected with the cotton industry.

The number of operatives employed in all industries based on annual returns from the factories, was 362,619 compared with 370,704 last year. There was considerably more employment in the Textile industry than in the previous year. The number employed during the day shifts was 242,271 being an increase of 1,265 over last year's figures. There was an increase of 3,700 in the Ahmedabad mills and a decrease of 2,615 in the Bombay concerns. Night working fluctuated fairly considerably during the year. The number of women employed was 73,477 as against 77,965 in the previous year. The number of children totalled 3,841 as against 4,389.

Sanitation and Ventilation.—The constant attention given to sanitary matters by the Inspector and the Certifying Surgeon in Ahmedabad has led to improved standards. The industry

in Ahmedabad has developed at a greater pace than Municipal facilities and trade waste is frequently disposed of in a most objectionable manner. Several Ahmedabad mills have decided to lead the drinking water supply pipes through the cooling chamber of the humidifying systems. Cooled drinking water is also being supplied by a Bombay Suburban factory. Past experience in Ahmedabad has definitely proved the value both from the humane and the technical side, of improving working conditions. There has latterly been a marked tendency to increase the pace of improvements in the spinning departments and one group of mills has installed 12 expensive plants that effectively cool and humidify the atmosphere of the spinning as well as of the weaving departments. A few mills in Bombay also installed cooling and humidifying plants. A few more mills provided vacuum stripping plant to remove the dust in the carding departments. Technical processes in the blowing rooms have developed in recent years and have led to somewhat less dusty card rooms.

In several seasonal areas wages were reduced during the year.

Accidents.—The total number of accidents during 1931 was 6,198 as against 6,454 in 1930. Thirty-six of the reported accidents were fatal, 1,261 serious and 4,901 minor. The fatal accidents were the least since 1923. There was a decrease of 244 in the accidents reported, whilst the rate per 100 persons again decreased, i.e. to 1·62 as against 1·70 in the previous year. A reduction of 50 per cent. in serious accidents from carding machines was reported from Ahmedabad. The Insurance Association has continued its " follow-up " system of mitigating the effects of accidents. The Red Cross poster dealing with unsuitable clothing has been freely purchased and exhibited in the larger factories.

Housing and Welfare.—There was no development of outstanding note during the year in the matter of housing provision. The Ahmedabad Municipality has decided to create a Trust Fund for a sanitary housing scheme on the hire purchase system. The building by-laws have been recently revised and brought more into line with the requirements of a rapidly expanding industrial centre. In the field of welfare work there was steady progress and a hostel was opened by Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Co. for single women workers. Improved medical facilities in mills are being considered by a Committee of mill doctors. Two lady doctors were engaged by a couple of Ahmedabad mills. The creches attached to Bombay mills have made steady progress. The average

attendance in December in Bombay was 511 with a highest figure of 587. These figures represent an increase of 40 per cent. over those of two years ago. A First Aid squad in each mill is being aimed at. A Labour officer has been engaged by an Ahmedabad mill, whilst two large groups in Bombay are endeavouring to make improvements over present recruiting methods.

The main recommendations of the Royal Commission on Labour have been circulated to owners and managers in English and the Vernacular.

Prosecutions.—The full-time inspectors instituted 209 cases against 53 factories and of these 207 were successful. The ex-officio inspectors instituted 6 cases against three concerns, all of them being successful. The average fine was Rs. 25 per case and Rs. 100 per factory.

THE WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1923

During the year under report a minor amendment was made in the Act under which the occupation of all persons employed in constructing, maintaining, dismantling, altering or repairing aerial ropeways was declared to be hazardous and brought within the scope of the Act by being added to Schedule II.

Returns under Section 16 of the Act were received from 1,708 employers of which 1,694 were in respect of factories, including railway workshops; 4 in respect of Mines; 4 in respect of Tramways and 6 in respect of Port Trusts. The number of factories subject to the operation of the Act in the Presidency was approximately 1,821 of which 1,694, i.e. about 93 per cent. submitted returns.

The average number of workmen employed daily in factories was 373,899 adults and 5,621 minors; in Mines 1,404 adults and 2 minors; in Tramways 3,545 adults and no minors and in Port Trusts 3,472 adults and 2 minors, the total number being 382,320 adults and 5,625 minors as against 378,309 adults and 6,073 minors employed last year. The total number of accidents in all these concerns was 3,220 of which 53 resulted fatally; 325 in permanent disablement and the remaining 2,842 in temporary disablement. The total amount of compensation shown as paid in respect of all the accidents was Rs. 1·68 lakhs of which Rs. 51,140 was in respect of fatal accidents; Rs. 78,624 for permanent disablement and Rs. 38,191 for temporary disablement. This amount represents only the compensation paid by the employers covered by the Notification under section 16 and not the whole amount of compensation paid by all the employers amenable to the Act. The total

amount of compensation awarded and distributed by the Commissioners during the year was approximately Rs. 2·60 lakhs.

There were in all 409 cases for disposal during the year as compared with 424 last year. Of these 240 were for award of compensation under section 10, of which 61 were in respect of fatal accidents, 156 related to accidents resulting in permanent disablement and the remaining 23 to temporary disablement. One hundred and forty-three applications were for distribution of compensation deposited under section 8 (*1*) and 12 were transferred for disposal to other Commissioners.

During the year under report Rs. 1·90 lakhs were deposited with the Commissioners as compensation, of which Rs. 1·48 lakhs were in respect of fatal accidents, Rs. 1,528 in respect of non-fatal accidents to minors or women under section 8 (*1*) and Rs. 40,468 for non-fatal accidents under section 8 (*2*). Including the opening balance there was a total amount of Rs. 2·33 lakhs of which Rs. 1·94 lakhs were paid out leaving a balance of Rs. 39,204.

The total number of applications for registration to be disposed of during the year was 332, of which 309 were disposed of and 23 remained pending at the end of the year. Compensation was awarded in 292 cases as against 299 in the previous year.

Out of the 323 applications filed during the year, 265 were filed in the Court of the Commissioner in Bombay.

THE BOMBAY MATERNITY BENEFIT ACT, 1929

"There can be no question of the value of the benefit to working women, and although mill women in Bombay still rely on the *dai* and on unskilled assistance, the figures prove that a considerable change has taken place in the last decade, since Dr. Barnes found in 1922 that 75 per cent. of mill women in Bombay did not obtain skilled assistance. It is clear that the Act has done a great deal to alleviate the lot of working women in Bombay," remarked the Chief Inspector of Factories in his annual report on the working of the Bombay Maternity Benefit Act, 1929, for the year ending 30th June 1932.

Returns were received from 374 of the 389 factories amenable to the Act.

The Act was extended during the year to the outstanding factories in the Khandesh and Sholapur areas, to the districts of Dharwar, Thana and Kaira, and to the City of Poona.

The total number of benefits granted were 5,455 as compared with 5,231 in the previous year, and the amount paid was

Rs. 1,28,542, an increase of about Rs. 7,000 over the preceding year.

The claims paid per 100 women increased slightly in Bombay, but the percentage 6·8 was considerably lower than in Ahmedabad and Sholapur where the high rates of the previous year were maintained.

The average benefit paid was Rs. 23-9-0 as against Rs. 24-8-0 last year. This indicates that the average woman is making almost full use of the pre-confinement period of abstention from work.

BOMBAY BOILER INSPECTION DEPARTMENT

The number of boilers on the register at the end of the year was 6,078 as against 6,030 in the previous year. Out of these 2,375 were inspected and certified by the Boiler Department. Seven cases of irregularities were discovered. The explanations given were accepted and in each case a warning was given. Six accidents to boilers were investigated during the year. In no case was personal injury sustained.

Four examinations for certificates of competency as boiler attendants and two for certificates of proficiency as engineers were held at Bombay and two for certificates of competency as boiler attendants at Karachi.

Finance.—The receipts, excluding those on account of Boiler Attendants' and Engineers' Examination fees, for the year were Rs. 1,38,586 as against Rs. 1,34,632 in the previous year. The increase was due to the levying of a revised scale of inspection fees.

SEA-BORNE TRADE

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY PROPER

The following figures give the total value of the Sea-borne Trade of the Bombay Presidency proper during the year 1931-32 :—

I. Foreign Trade (Private)—

Imports.—Rs. 54·19 crores, a decrease of Rs. 20·66 crores ;

Exports.—Rs. 95·57 crores, an increase of Rs. 37·07 crores ; giving a total foreign trade of Rs. 149·76 crores showing a net increase of Rs. 16·41 crores.

II. Coasting Trade (Private)—

Imports.—Rs. 25·16 crores, an increase of Rs. 24 lakhs ;

Exports.—Rs. 33·05 crores, an increase of Rs. 4·22 crores ; giving a total Coasting trade of Rs. 58·21 crores, a net increase of Rs. 4·46 crores.

III. Government Transactions amounting to Rs. 2·40 crores.

Adding these three the total Sea-borne trade amounted to Rs. 210·37 crores, showing a net increase of Rs. 19·79 crores.

Though the year under report opened under somewhat happier political auspices and with a hope of a recovery in commodity prices, it was soon evident that the economic landslide was continuing in full force. It is unnecessary here to recapitulate the catastrophic events of the past year's financial history. Suffice it to say that these were not without their repercussions on India. How severe the effects were may be gauged from one example. Exports of raw cotton, our chief export commodity, were valued at Rs. 16 crores in 1931–32 as against a figure of Rs. 48 crores in 1928–29 and as cotton comprises about 50 per cent. of the total export trade it can easily be realised to what depths the export trade has fallen. In these circumstances a balance of trade adverse to India might have been expected. The export of Rs. 60 crores of gold has however proved a very substantial make-weight. Nor have internal trading conditions been altogether happy. The intransigence of one political party paralysed for the best part of the year Bombay as a trading centre and the mills have been prevented from taking full advantage of a situation which from the political and fiscal points of view appeared to be greatly in their favour.

Imports of merchandise further contracted by Rs. 7·18 crores, or nearly 13 per cent. to Rs. 49·76 crores. In most commodities quantities and values have fallen simultaneously. Almost all articles of import have shared in the contraction, the more important among them being metals and ores, grain, pulse and flour, sugar, cotton manufactures, motor cars and motor cycles etc. and machinery and millwork. The only important articles which showed noticeable increases were artificial silk and raw cotton. Imports of treasure further declined by Rs. 13·48 crores to Rs. 4·43 crores.

Exports of Indian produce also showed a further falling off of Rs. 21·51 crores, or nearly 41 per cent. to Rs. 31·51 crores, almost all the principal articles contributed to the fall. World depression in trade and the slump in commodity prices were mainly responsible for this heavy decrease which was most marked in the case of raw cotton, seeds, metals and ores and raw hides and skins.

The percentage distribution of Bombay's trade indicates that the United Kingdom has regained the pride of place which she had yielded to Japan last year. The share of the United Kingdom in the total trade improved by nearly $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. while that of Japan declined by over $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. owing mainly to reduced shipments of raw cotton. Trade with the Continent

of Europe decreased by ½ per cent. but that with the United States of America increased by nearly 1½ per cent.

The value of the total foreign trade of Bombay increased by Rs. 16·41 crores or 12 per cent. to Rs. 149·76 crores, owing entirely to heavy shipments of gold. Both imports and exports of merchandise showed considerable decreases. Imports of precious metals also declined by Rs. 13·44 crores but exports thereof advanced by Rs. 58·97 crores entirely representing larger shipments of gold as a result of the British suspension of the gold standard and the rise in the sterling price of gold.

The value of the total coasting trade also rose by Rs. 4·46 crores, or by 8 per cent. to Rs. 58·21 crores, imports contributing Rs. 24·02 lakhs and exports Rs. 4·22 crores towards the rise.

The gross collections of the Bombay Custom House increased from Rs. 11,90,33,773 to Rs. 12,38,19,788. These figures exclude the collections on account of the various cesses, such as cotton cess and tea cess. The ratio of true expenditure to revenue was 1·38 as against 1·41 per cent. in the previous year.

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE PORTS OF BOMBAY AND KARACHI

The following table shows the value to the nearest lakh of the Foreign Import and Export Trade of the Ports of Bombay and Karachi grouped according to the classes shown in Government accounts :—

Imports		Increase or decrease in 1931-32
BOMBAY	Lakhs	Lakhs
Food, drink and tobacco	505	— 300
Raw materials and produce and articles mainly unmanufactured	1,197	— 27
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ..	3,122	— 373
Living animals	17	+ 7
Postal articles not specified	134	— 25
Total ..	4,975	— 718
KARACHI		
Food, drink and tobacco	234	— 217
Raw materials and produce and articles mainly unmanufactured	163	— 36
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ..	1,149	— 100
Postal articles not specified	39	— 10
Total ..	1,585	— 363

Exports

		Increase or decrease in 1931-32
BOMBAY.		
Indian Produce and Manufacture	Lakhs	Lakhs
Food, drink and tobacco	192	— 19
Raw materials and produce and articles mainly unmanufactured	2,449	— 2,031
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ..	447	— 94
Living animals	....	— 1
Postal articles	63	— 6
Total ..	3,151	— 2,151
KARACHI		
Indian Produce and Manufacture		
Food, drink and tobacco	136	— 205
Raw materials and produce and articles mainly unmanufactured	991	— 327
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ..	23	— 11
Postal articles	3	....
Total ..	1,153	— 543
BOMBAY		
Foreign Merchandise		
Food, drink and tobacco	26	+ 2
Raw materials and produce and articles mainly unmanufactured	114	— 28
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ..	136	— 12
Living animals	2	— 1
Postal articles	6	....
Total ..	284	— 39
KARACHI		
Foreign Merchandise		
Food, drink and tobacco	11	+ 6
Raw materials and produce and articles mainly unmanufactured	29	— 1
Articles wholly or mainly manufactured ..	51	— 25
Total ..	91	— 20

Total Export, Bombay—3,435 lakhs, a decrease of 2,190 lakhs.
Total Export, Karachi—1,244 lakhs, a decrease of 563 lakhs.

CHIEF PORT—BOMBAY

The aggregate value of the foreign trade (private) of Bombay improved by about Rs. 17 crores to Rs. 150 crores, i.e. by 12 per cent., but, if treasure be excluded, declined by Rs. 29 crores, or nearly 26 per cent., to Rs. 84 crores. During the same period the foreign trade of Calcutta receded by Rs. 39 crores, or nearly 30 per cent., to Rs. 92 crores and that of Karachi by Rs. 9 crores, or nearly 25 per cent., to Rs. 28 crores. Imports of merchandise into Bombay fell by nearly 13 per cent. while those into Calcutta and Karachi by 32 per cent. and nearly 19 per cent. respectively. Metals and ores, grain, pulse and flour, sugar, cotton manufactures, motor cars and motor cycles, machinery and millwork, provisions and oilman's stores, instruments, apparatus etc., liquors, postal articles not specified and oils are mainly responsible for the fall at Bombay.

Exports of Indian produce also declined by Rs. 21½ crores, or nearly 41 per cent. at Bombay, by 28 per cent. at Calcutta and by 32 per cent. at Karachi. Raw cotton, seeds, metals and ores, raw hides and skins and cotton twist and yarn mainly accounted for the decrease at Bombay.

The total value of the private coasting trade of Bombay, excluding treasure, increased by Rs. 4·21 crores to Rs. 51·96 crores, both imports and exports contributing to the increase.

FOREIGN TRADE

IMPORTS

The total value of imported merchandise received a further set-back and contracted by Rs. 7·18 crores to Rs. 49·75 crores. This may be attributed chiefly to lower level of commodity prices consequent upon the general trade depression and to the reduced purchasing power of the people. The contraction is most marked in metals and ores, grain, pulse and flour, sugar, cotton manufactures, motor cars and motor cycles etc., machinery and millwork, provisions and oilman's stores, instruments and apparatus and liquors. The only articles which showed noticeable increases were artificial silk and raw cotton. Dyeing and tanning substances, silk manufactures including silk yarns, noils and warps and cotton twist and yarn also showed increases.

The more important commodities are the subject of special remarks in the subsequent paragraphs.

Coal.—As a result of the greater use of Bengal coal imports of foreign coal again fell from Rs. 18·52 lakhs to Rs. 6·37 lakhs during the year under report, representing smaller arrivals

from Natal and the United Kingdom. Shipments from Australia however increased. Receipts of Bengal coal advanced from 251,000 tons to 425,000 tons. Prices of English coal were fairly steady throughout the year but those of Bengal coal slightly declined towards the end.

Dyeing and Tanning Substances.—Imports under this head further advanced from Rs. 1·66 crore to Rs. 1·85 crore mainly owing to larger arrivals of coal tar dyes from Germany whose share in the total imports increased from 61 to nearly 66 per cent., in spite of the duty at 10 per cent. *ad valorem* imposed on these dyes with effect from 30th September 1931.

Hardware.—The value of imports further decreased by Rs. 15·85 lakhs to Rs. 85·1 lakhs owing to smaller arrivals from all important countries. Germany continued to be the largest supplier though her share declined from 36½ to 35 per cent. of the total imports.

Machinery and Millwork.—The articles included under this group which were hitherto passed free were made assessable to duty at 10 per cent. *ad valorem* with effect from 30th September 1931. The total value of imports under this head further fell by Rs. 41·63 lakhs to Rs. 3·58 crores, all kinds of machinery except textile machinery and oil crushing and refining machinery sharing in the fall. Imports of textile machinery on the other hand increased by Rs. 24·38 lakhs to Rs. 1·73 crore. The share of the United Kingdom by far the largest supplier in the total imports remained almost unchanged. The share of Germany rose from 9·8 to 11·7 per cent. but that of the United States of America fell from 7·1 to 5·1 per cent.

Iron and Steel.—The total imports from the United Kingdom further fell from 47,000 tons to 38,000 tons in quantity and from Rs. 95·42 lakhs to Rs. 74·17 lakhs in value and those from Belgium from 83,000 tons to 50,000 tons in quantity and from Rs. 1·16 crore to Rs. 77·01 lakhs in value. Arrivals from Germany, France and the United States of America also declined but those from Luxemburg improved from 8,135 tons to 9,771 tons in quantity and from Rs. 7·44 lakhs to Rs. 8·23 lakhs in value.

Other Metals.—Under brass the principal article is mixed or yellow metal for sheathing imports of which increased by 30,953 cwt. in quantity and by Rs. 2·37 lakhs in value. Imports from Germany rose from Rs. 44·08 lakhs to Rs. 46·07 lakhs but those from Japan fell from Rs. 20·77 lakhs to Rs. 14·6 lakhs. On account of very heavy stocks imports of copper fell from

Rs. 57·05 lakhs to Rs. 44·95 lakhs. Imports of aluminium, consisting almost entirely of circles, fell from Rs. 35·56 lakhs to Rs. 15·32 lakhs owing mainly to smaller supplies from the United States of America and the United Kingdom. Smaller arrivals from the Straits Settlements are chiefly responsible for the decrease in the imports of tin which fell from Rs. 13·88 lakhs to Rs. 11·34 lakhs. Imports of German silver improved.

Motor cars and motor cycles.—Owing to financial stringency, coupled with the enhanced rate of duty and unfavourable exchange, the total value of the imports of motor cars, motor cycles, commercial vehicles and parts and accessories further receded by Rs. 61·92 lakhs to Rs. 1·42 crore. Imports of motor cars decreased from 5,208 to 3,325 in number and from Rs. 98·95 lakhs to Rs. 67·08 lakhs in value. Arrivals from Canada declined from 1,236 to 342 cars, those from the United States of America from 2,735 to 1,932 and those from the United Kingdom from 754 to 606 cars. The average declared value of British cars increased from Rs. 2,842 to Rs. 2,851. Imports of motor cycles fell from 273 to 257. Arrivals of commercial vehicles also receded from 4,987 to 3,091 in number and from Rs. 65·12 lakhs to Rs. 42·09 lakhs in value, owing to reduced shipments from the United States of America and Canada.

Oils.—Imports of mineral oils from foreign countries decreased by 2½ million gallons to 83¾ million gallons owing entirely to smaller receipts of Kerosene, due to cessation of shipments during the year from Celebes and other Islands in the Pacific. Shipments from the United States of America of Kerosene, both in bulk and in tins, also declined, while those from Persia and Georgia advanced. Two and quarter million gallons Kerosene was also received from Dutch Borneo and over ¾ million gallons from Roumania. Imports from Burma also improved by 5 million gallons to over 19¾ million gallons.

Postal articles not specified.—The total value of the articles not specified decreased from Rs. 1·58 crore to Rs. 1·34 crore of which the value of the imports from the United Kingdom was Rs. 67·39 lakhs as against Rs. 74·77 lakhs in the preceding year. The number of parcels assessed at this port fell from 203,013 to 181,833 but the amount of duty collected increased from Rs. 23·22 lakhs to Rs. 27·47 lakhs.

Precious stones and pearls unset.—Owing to the adverse rates of exchange and the unsettled political conditions the trade in precious stones further declined from Rs. 39·92 lakhs to Rs. 35·17 lakhs, of which Rs. 24·05 lakhs represent diamonds,

almost entirely from Belgium, whose share fell from Rs. 26·41 lakhs to Rs. 21·52 lakhs. Imports of pearls also fell from Rs. 10·9 lakhs to Rs. 10·55 lakhs owing to smaller arrivals from other Native States in Arabia and Bahrein Islands. Despatches from Muscat slightly increased.

Sugar.—Purchases by India were discouraged by an increase in duty from Rs. 6 to Rs. 7-4-0 from 1st March 1931 and to Rs. 9-1-0 per cwt. from 30th September 1931 and also by the fluctuations in the rate of exchange.

The total imports of sugar into British India recorded a fall of 447,000 tons, Bombay's share in the fall being 84,000 tons. Receipts of Java sugar into Bombay decreased by 110,000 tons but those of beet sugar increased by 26,000 tons owing to larger supplies from Russia, Poland and the United Kingdom. Despatches from Germany and Hungary recorded decreases.

Tea.—Imports of foreign tea advanced from 4,454,000 lbs. to 5,400,000 lbs. in quantity and from Rs. 30·94 lakhs to Rs. 34·42 lakhs in value. Arrivals of black tea from Ceylon and Java improved from 1,176,000 lbs. and 450,000 lbs. to 1,594,000 lbs. and 726,000 lbs. in quantity and from Rs. 8·55 lakhs and Rs. 2·02 lakhs to Rs. 10·96 lakhs and Rs. 3·14 lakhs in value respectively. Arrivals of green tea from China also advanced from 2,498,000 lbs. to 2,583,000 lbs. in quantity but declined in value from Rs. 17·95 lakhs to Rs. 17·32 lakhs. Receipts of tea from Calcutta also increased from 6,149,000 lbs. to 12,056,000 lbs. in quantity and from Rs. 35·93 lakhs to Rs. 62·32 lakhs in value. Exports of Indian tea fell from 486,000 lbs. to 298,000 lbs. in quantity and from Rs. 4·4 lakhs to Rs. 2·76 lakhs in value due chiefly to smaller shipments to Persia.

Textiles—A. Cotton, Raw.—Imports of foreign cotton further advanced from 57,780 tons to 75,809 tons in quantity and from Rs. 6·32 crores to Rs. 6·79 crores in value. This increase mainly represents larger arrivals of American and East African cotton due to relatively lower prices and the consequent opportunity afforded to Indian mills to spin finer counts of yarn and to weave the finer fabrics and thus displace the foreign import of higher grade cloths.

B. Cotton piecegoods.—The total value of imported piecegoods (including fents) again decreased from Rs. 4·36 crores to Rs. 3·34 crores, coloured goods representing Rs. 1·22 crore, greys Rs. 1·02 crore and whites Rs. 85·45 lakhs. Imports of coloured goods declined by Rs. 68·63 lakhs, of greys by Rs. 26·65 lakhs and those of whites by Rs. 20·29 lakhs. Imports of fents, however, rose from Rs. 11·74 lakhs to Rs. 25·39 lakhs, owing to

larger arrivals from the United States of America and the United Kingdom. The share of the United Kingdom in the total piecegoods trade declined from 56 to 43 per cent. while that of Japan advanced from 34 to 41 per cent.

C. Cotton Yarn.—Owing to the improved condition of the mills and their desire to produce finer grades of cloths, the total imports of foreign cotton yarn advanced from 10¼ million lbs. to over 12 million lbs. in quantity and from Rs. 1·18 crore to Rs. 1·33 crore in value, representing larger arrivals from Japan and other countries.

D. Silk, Raw and Manufactured.—Depressed trade conditions, fluctuations in exchange and diversion of a portion of the trade to Madras are responsible for the further decline in the imports of raw silk from 1,287,000 lbs. valued at Rs. 60·57 lakhs to 1,036,000 lbs. valued at Rs. 41·95 lakhs. Imports from China fell from 961,000 lbs. to 826,000 lbs. in quantity and from Rs. 47·48 lakhs to Rs. 34·27 lakhs in value and those from Hongkong from 298,000 lbs. to 173,000 lbs. in quantity and from Rs. 12·15 lakhs to Rs. 6·03 lakhs in value. Despite the general depression and the enhanced rates of duty imports of piece-goods, the most important item in the group, advanced from 11¾ million yards to 16¼ million yards in quantity and from Rs. 89·97 lakhs to Rs. 1 crore in value and were drawn almost entirely from Japan and China.

E. Artificial Silk.—A consistently good demand from the consuming centres was responsible for the increase in the imports of artificial silk yarn which rose from 4¼ million lbs. valued at Rs. 47·27 lakhs to over 5¼ million lb. valued at Rs. 55·74 lakhs owing to larger supplies from almost all the principal supplying countries. Receipts from Italy, the chief supplier, amounted to 3¼ million lbs. valued at Rs. 34·5 lakhs as against 3 million lbs. valued at Rs. 34·48 lakhs in the previous year.

F. Wool, Raw and Manufactured.—Imports of raw wool improved from 1½ million lbs. to nearly 4 million lbs. in quantity and from Rs. 8·37 lakhs to Rs. 16·04 lakhs in value owing to larger arrivals from all the supplying countries. Owing to heavy stocks being carried over from the previous year, trade depression and higher replacement cost, receipts of piece-goods, the most important item in the group, further declined from 2 million yards to 1½ million yards in quantity and from Rs. 38·9 lakhs to Rs. 23·7 lakhs in value. Supplies from all the supplying countries decreased. The share of the United Kingdom, the principal source of supply in the total imports, improved from 50 to 55 per cent.

FOREIGN MERCHANDISE

EXPORTS

In the year under report there was again a further falling off in the entrepot trade of Bombay. The total value of foreign merchandise re-exported declined by Rs. 38·88 lakhs to Rs. 284·33 lakhs. This decline was partly due to lower prices and partly to smaller re-shipments of cotton manufactures, oils, gums and resins, machinery and millwork, coal and coke and spices.

INDIAN PRODUCE AND MANUFACTURES

Consequent upon the world depression in trade and the slump in commodity prices exports of Indian produce and manufactures further contracted by Rs. 21·51 crores to Rs. 31·51 crores. All the principal articles of export except grain, pulse and flour, oils and cotton manufactures shared in the contraction and in particular raw cotton, seeds, metals and ores, raw hides and skins, cotton twist and yarn, leather, spices, wool manufactures, oilcakes, wood and timber, raw wool, tobacco and myrabolams which represent 83 per cent. of the total export trade. The more important of these items are dealt with separately in the subsequent paragraphs; of the rest, the following deserve comment. The decrease in the exports of spices was due to lesser demand from all the principal buying countries. Exports of oilcakes declined mainly owing to reduced shipments of groundnut cake to the United Kingdom and Ceylon. Poor demand from Aden and Dependencies for unmanufactured tobacco was entirely responsible for the decrease in the exports of tobacco. The increase in the exports of grain, pulse and flour was entirely due to larger shipments of jowar and bajri, especially to the Netherlands and Germany.

Grain, Pulse and Flour.—Exports under this head increased from 48,169 tons valued at Rs. 1·04 crore to 96,600 tons valued at Rs. 1·2 crore owing entirely to large shipments of jowar and bajri despatches of which to the Netherlands amounted to 23,040 tons valued at Rs. 14·78 lakhs and to Germany to 18,047 tons valued at Rs. 11·67 lakhs as against 60 tons valued at Rs. 4,000 only in the previous year. Of the other principal items, exports of rice fell by 557 tons to 13,347 tons in quantity and by Rs. 8·78 lakhs to Rs. 25·56 lakhs in value chiefly owing to smaller takings by the East African ports. The fall from 17,603 tons valued at Rs. 36·9 lakhs to 15,323 tons valued at Rs. 29·37 lakhs in the shipments of wheat flour is accounted for mainly by smaller despatches to other Native States in

Arabia and Aden and Dependencies. Exports of wheat remained practically stationary while those of pulse, though rose in quantity by 971 tons, fell in value by Rs. 42,000.

Hides and Skins (Raw and Tanned).—In consequence of poor demand from America and of European markets being filled with previous stocks, exports under this head further declined from 7,726 tons to 3,222 tons in quantity and from Rs. 1·2 crore to Rs. 61·12 lakhs in value. Shipments of raw hides fell by Rs. 6·57 lakhs to Rs. 3·33 lakhs owing entirely to reduced shipments to Germany and the Netherlands. The fall of Rs. 5·58 lakhs under tanned hides almost entirely represents smaller despatches to the United Kingdom. Exports of raw skins fell by Rs. 32·81 lakhs as a result of poor demand from the United States of America. Shipments of tanned or dressed skins receded by Rs. 13·59 lakhs owing entirely to restricted demand from the United Kingdom.

Metals and Ores.—The principal item under this group is manganese ore, exports of which from the whole of British India declined from 485,773 tons to 211,737 tons in the year under review. Shipments from Bengal recorded a fall of 86,985 tons, from Bombay of 183,220 tons and from Madras of 3,831 tons. The fall in the exports from Bombay is attributed partly to heavy Russian competition and partly to the shipments from Goa taking place directly instead of through this port.

Seeds.—Next to raw cotton, the most important item in the export trade of Bombay is oilseeds, shipments of which showed a further falling off of 30,830 tons in quantity and of Rs. 83·81 lakhs in value owing mainly to foreign competition. The heavy fall of 58,199 tons in quantity and of Rs. 1·61 crore in value in the exports of linseed is due to restricted demand from all the principal buying countries which turned to Argentina for their supplies on account of the exceedingly low prices prevailing there consequent upon a bumper crop.

Textiles : A Cotton Raw.—The price of raw cotton showed a downward tendency in world markets during the first five months of the year but gradually improved during the subsequent months. The consumption of Indian cotton in local mills did not show any improvement owing to the greater use of imported cotton on account of the shortage of staple cotton and the desire of the mills to spin higher counts. The Indian crop of 1931–32 is estimated to be 4,064,000 bales as against 4,820,000 bales of the previous year.

Prices of Indian cotton also showed a gradual decline during the first five months and fell to Rs. 136 by the middle of August,

the lowest price reached for many years past. Owing partly to the failure of Indian crop, which was much below that of the last year, and partly to lower prices exports showed a fall by 203,000 tons to 282,000 tons in quantity and by Rs. 18·08 crores to Rs. 16·09 crores in value. All the principal buying countries took smaller quantities. Indo-China, however, took 1,741 tons more than in the previous year. Stocks in Bombay at the end of March 1932 amounted to 635,000 bales as compared with 953,000 bales at the end of the previous year.

B. Cotton Manufactures.—The Persian Gulf and the East African ports are the principal markets for Indian cotton piece-goods. The total shipments during the year showed an improvement by 9¼ million yards to nearly 74 million yards in quantity and by Rs. 10·02 lakhs to Rs. 1·86 crores in value due entirely to larger shipments of coloured piece-goods. Persia, Iraq, Bahrein Islands, Muscat and Other Native States in Arabia took larger supplies while most of the East African ports and Siam reduced their demand.

Coloured piece-goods constituted nearly 89 per cent. and grey 11 per cent. of the export trade.

C. Cotton Yarn.—Exports under this head showed a further falling off by 1½ million lbs. to 21¼ million lbs. in quantity and by Rs. 30 lakhs to Rs. 124 lakhs in value. This is attributed to reduced shipments to Egypt as a result of the restarting of the mills there, which had stopped work for several years. The cheap prices of Egyptian cotton coupled with a protective tariff also helped to keep off foreign products.

D. Wool, Raw.—The total exports during the year increased by 4 million lb. to 16¾ million lb. in quantity but fell by Rs. 10·9 lakhs to Rs. 94·37 lakhs in value. Shipments to the United Kingdom rose from 10¾ million lb. to 14½ million lb. in quantity but fell in value from Rs. 93·1 lakhs to Rs. 82·1 lakhs while those to the United States of America rose from nearly 1 million lb. to 1¾ million lb. in quantity and from Rs. 5·85 lakhs to Rs. 8·63 lakhs in value. Exports to France improved but those to Belgium and Italy declined.

TRADE ACCORDING TO COUNTRIES

During the year under report the United Kingdom regained the pride of place which she had yielded to Japan last year. Her share in the total trade increased from 19·8 per cent. to 21·45 per cent. while that of Japan decreased from 20·7 per cent. to 17·1 per cent. The proportionate share of Continental Europe slightly declined while that of America improved.

Under imports the United Kingdom's figure recorded a fall by Rs. 2·71 crores to Rs. 12·93 crores owing to reduced shipments of most of the principal articles especially cotton piece-goods. Imports from Other British Possessions declined by Rs. 50 lakhs to Rs. 206 lakhs as a result of smaller arrivals of wheat from Australia, motor cars from Canada and coal from Natal despite larger receipts of raw cotton from Kenya Colony. Imports from foreign countries in Europe also recorded a fall due mainly to reduced shipments of iron and steel and precious stones from Belgium, metals, beet sugar and instruments, etc., from Germany, almonds, raw cotton and postal articles not specified from Italy and vegetable products from the Netherlands. The only noticeable increases were of dyeing and tanning substances from Germany and silk yarn from Italy. Under foreign countries in Asia, imports from Java declined as a result of smaller despatches of sugar and those from Iraq fell away mainly owing to reduced shipments of wheat. Imports from China decreased owing chiefly to smaller receipts of silk, raw and manufactures. On the other hand imports from Japan and Persia showed noticeable increases due entirely to larger arrivals of artificial silk piece-goods and kerosene oil respectively. Smaller shipments of raw cotton from Egypt were entirely responsible for the substantial fall in the imports from Africa while larger receipts of the same mainly accounted for the increase in the imports from the United States of America despite reduced supplies of kerosene oil, motor cars, machinery and millwork, rubber manufactures and copper sheets.

Under exports, Japan continued to occupy the first place though her proportionate share decreased from 32·6 per cent. to 25·28 per cent. The decline in the total value of exports to that country is due entirely to reduced shipments of raw cotton. Exports to the United Kingdom also fell owing mainly to smaller takings of seeds, raw cotton, hides and skins, raw and tanned, manganese ore and oilcakes, her share in the export trade, however, increased from 12·03 per cent. to 14·89 per cent. Among other countries, the shares of Belgium, Germany and Italy declined owing chiefly to smaller shipments of raw cotton but those of France and the Netherlands improved on account of larger takings of seeds and grain, pulse and flour respectively. The percentage share of China showed a slight increase as the trade with that country did not suffer to the same extent to which the total export trade had suffered. The shares of Iraq and Persia increased owing chiefly to larger supplies of cotton

piece-goods. America's share declined on account of smaller takings of raw skins and raw cotton.

Treasure.—With a reduced balance of trade in favour of India, *viz.*, Rs. 35 crores only as against Rs. 62 crores in 1930-31 imports of treasure on private account further declined from Rs. 17·91 crores to Rs. 4·43 crores, both gold and silver sharing in the decline. Imports of gold bullion fell by Rs. 4·1 crore due to smaller arrivals from the United Kingdom and Natal. Receipts from Bahrein Islands and Iraq, however, were larger by Rs. 10·23 lakhs and Rs. 8·68 lakhs respectively. These exceptional increases indicate that Bombay was a collecting centre for gold to be despatched to London. The fall of Rs. 2·9 crores in the receipts of sovereigns is mainly due to smaller despatches from Natal, which were valued at Rs. 12·92 lakhs as against Rs. 2·93 crores in the preceding year.

Imports of bar silver declined from Rs. 8·71 crores to Rs. 2·32 crores. Receipts from the United Kingdom amounted to Rs. 1·78 crore as against Rs. 5·9 crores and those from the United States of America to Rs. 41·69 lakhs against Rs. 1·98 crore in the previous year. Imports of Government of India rupees rose from Rs. 34 lakhs to Rs. 40·97 lakhs owing entirely to larger despatches from Mauritius and Dependencies, which amounted to Rs. 18·33 lakhs as against none in the previous year.

As a result of the British suspension of the gold standard there was a strong demand for gold in London and its rise in price encouraged shipments on private account which amounted to Rs. 59·7 crores during the year under report as against Rs. 49·05 lakhs only in the previous year. These shipments consisted mostly of bullion despatches of which to the United Kingdom, amounted to Rs. 46·39 crores against Rs. 48·98 lakhs in the preceding year.

SHIPPING

The total number of vessels engaged in the foreign trade decreased from 1,313 to 1,211, but their total tonnage increased from 4,963,786 to 5,053,968. Steamers numbered 1,045 of the burthen of 5,037,057 tons as against 1,128 of 4,945,768 tons in the previous year. The average net tonnage of steamers which entered the port with cargo was 4,695 as against 4,290 in the preceding year. Sailing vessels consisted entirely of "Native Craft" engaged in trade with ports in the Persian Gulf, Arabia and East Africa.

COASTING TRADE

The coasting trade excluding treasure between the chief port—Bombay—and other ports in India grouped by Provinces is summarised in the following statement :—

(In lakhs of rupees)

	Imports			Exports		
	1930–31	1931–32	Increase or decrease	1930–31	1931–32	Increase or decrease
1. British Ports within the Presidency.	123	152	+ 29	186	213	+ 27
2. Indian Ports not British within the Presidency.	540	452	— 88	333	309	— 24
3. British Ports in other Presidencies.	1,410	1,530	+120	1,986	2,385	+399
4. Indian Ports not British in other Presidencies.	94	63	— 31	103	91	— 12
Grand Total ..	2,167	2,197	+ 30	2,608	2,998	+390

Imports from coast ports into Bombay consisted almost entirely of articles of Indian produce which were intended partly for consumption in the Presidency and partly for re-export to foreign countries.

In the year under report imports rose from Rs. 21·67 crores to Rs. 21·97 crores, showing an improvement of Rs. 30 lakhs due chiefly to larger arrivals of jute manufactures, coal and tea from Bengal, of kerosene oil from Burma and of cotton piece-goods and dried fruits from Sind. Imports of raw cotton further fell from Rs. 5·54 crores to Rs. 5·08 crores owing to reduced shipments from Goa, Madras and Kathiawar in spite of larger arrivals from Sind. Imports of grain, pulse and flour also declined by Rs. 37·16 lakhs to Rs. 5·17 crores as a result of reduced shipments of rice from Burma despite increased supplies of wheat from Sind.

Exports from Bombay to coast ports improved from Rs. 26 crores to Rs. 30 crores due mainly to larger shipments of Indian produce which increased by Rs. 4·61 crores to Rs. 24·78 crores and represented nearly 83 per cent. of the total export trade. This increase entirely represents larger shipments of cotton piece-goods to all the principal ports. Re-exports of foreign merchandise fell by Rs. 70·4 lakhs to Rs. 5·20 crores owing entirely to

reduced shipments of cotton piece-goods to Madras, larger exports to Sind being almost counterbalanced by smaller shipments to Travancore and Goa. Re-exports of motor cars, aniline dyes, metals and hardware also declined but those of sugar, dried fruits and kerosene oil showed increases.

SUBORDINATE PORTS OF THE BOMBAY PRESIDENCY

FOREIGN TRADE

The foreign trade of the subordinate ports of the Presidency is insignificant. Imports, which chiefly represented dates from Iraq, increased from Rs. 60,000 to Rs. 64,000. There were no exports to foreign countries during the year under report.

COASTING TRADE

The total value of the coasting trade of the subordinate ports increased by Rs. 14·69 lakhs to Rs. 6·08 crores. Imports fell by Rs. 17·50 lakhs to Rs. 3·05 crores but exports rose by Rs. 32·19 lakhs to Rs. 3·02 crores. Sixty per cent. of the total trade of the subordinate ports is with the chief port—Bombay.

MARITIME TRADE

SIND

The following figures give the values of the entire Maritime Trade of the Province of Sind for the year 1931–32 :—

I. Foreign Trade (Private and Government)—

Imports.—Rs. 18·19 crores, a decrease of Rs. 5·83 crores ;

Exports.—Rs. 12·91 crores, a decrease of Rs. 5·30 crores ; giving a total foreign trade of Rs. 31·10 crores—a net decrease of Rs. 11·13 crores.

II. Coasting Trade (Private and Government)—

Imports.—Rs. 11·35 crores, an increase of Rs. 74 lakhs ;

Exports.—Rs. 6·69 crores, an increase of Rs. 1·63 crores ; giving a total coasting trade of Rs. 18·04 crores, a net increase of Rs. 2·37 crores.

The entire Maritime Trade of the Province of Sind thus amounted to Rs. 49·14 crores, showing a net decrease of Rs. 8·76 crores.

Trade in the Province suffered a further decline from the already low level of the preceding year. The continuance of world-wide economic depression coupled with political unrest in India throughout the year and the instability of certain foreign exchanges during the second-half of the year following the suspension of the gold standard by Great Britain were the chief factors interfering with the normal course of trade. It is

significant that whereas foreign trade, which forms 63 per cent. of the entire trade, decreased by Rs. 1,113 lakhs or 26 per cent. coasting trade increased by Rs. 2,37 lakhs or 15 per cent. giving a net decrease of Rs. 8,76 lakhs or 15 per cent. Taken as a whole the fall in foreign trade was mainly due to a decrease in volume and the generally lower level of prices.

Foreign imports decreased by Rs. 5,83 lakhs or 24 per cent. for which almost all articles except machinery, artificial silk and arms and ammunition were responsible, the decrease being most marked under sugar, metals, oils, provisions, liquor and motor cars and lorries. Cotton piece-goods decreased somewhat in value but increased in quantity. Foreign exports decreased by Rs. 5,30 lakhs or 29 per cent. Cotton and wheat accounted for 94 per cent. of the decrease ; raw wool and rapeseed being the only important articles showing an increase.

Coasting imports increased by Rs. 74 lakhs or 7 per cent. for which mineral oils, cotton yarn and piece-goods, cigarettes and iron and steel were responsible. Coasting exports showed a considerable improvement of Rs. 1,63 lakhs or 32 per cent. owing to unusually large shipments of wheat to Calcutta and Bombay and to heavy exports of cotton to Bombay and Madras. The new salt industry of Karachi showed satisfactory progress, shipments to Calcutta having increased from 16,665 to 30,905 tons.

The United Kingdom maintained her supremacy in both the import and export trade and handled 40 per cent. of the total trade with foreign countries. Next in importance were Japan 11 per cent., Germany 8·6 per cent., America 8·5 per cent. and Italy 6 per cent.

The gross collections of customs duty amounted to Rs. 5,65 lakhs compared with Rs. 6,37 lakhs during 1930-31 ; a decrease of 11 per cent. in spite of the much higher rates of duty in force.

Notes on the changes in the value and volume of important articles in the trade are given below :—

IMPORTS

Sugar.—The heavy drop of over 50 per cent. viz. from Rs. 2,62 lakhs to Rs. 1,23 lakhs in the imports of sugar was due mainly to the greatly curtailed purchasing power and to the very high import duty, the latter acting as a protective measure favouring increased consumption of indigenous sugar. The local price

of white Java opened at Rs. 12-3-0 per cwt. in April 1931, and closed at Rs. 14-4-0 at the end of the year.

Tea.—Imports of black tea rose by 102,581 lbs. to 442,081 lbs. in quantity and by Rs. 9,517 to Rs. 2·68 lakhs in value. This was mostly cheap dust tea from Ceylon, which is largely used in bazaar tea shops. Arrivals of green tea decreased somewhat, the figures for the past two years being 210,481 lbs. valued at Rs. 1·60 lakhs and 185,384 lbs. valued at Rs. 1·12 lakhs, respectively. China supplied less, but Ceylon sent more.

Mineral Oils.—The decrease under kerosene oil, viz. from 23,000,000 gallons to 21,000,000 gallons and petrol from 13,000,000 gallons to 12,000,000 gallons was attributed mainly to reduced consumption on account of financial stringency and the high incidence of customs duty. The whole of the petrol imported by sea from Persia was re-exported to that country by land, viz. Zahidan. Fuel oil came chiefly from Persia and British Borneo, receipts from the former increasing at the expense of the latter.

Coal.—Imports were mainly for bunkering purposes. Foreign coal mostly from Natal decreased by 18,481 tons to 13,179 tons valued at Rs. 2·44 lakhs and Indian coal from Bengal by 9,480 tons to 70,358 tons valued at Rs. 12·18 lakhs.

Cotton Manufactures.—In spite of the abnormal conditions under which business in cotton goods laboured, imports of cotton piece-goods actually increased from 183½ million yards to 218 million yards or by 19 per cent. though their value decreased slightly from Rs. 406 lakhs to Rs. 402 lakhs or by 1 per cent. Although the boycott of foreign cloth continued, no difficulty was experienced in disposing of consignments in up-country markets. General trade depression, however, prevented much headway being made. The share of the United Kingdom in the total value of imports of cotton piece-goods dropped from 82 to 79 per cent., while that of Japan rose from 10 to 12 per cent. The consumption of Indian piece-goods continued to increase.

Woollen Goods.—Imports of yarn and knitting wool, intended mostly for the Amritsar market, rose in value by Rs. 38,000 to Rs. 11·96 lakhs, Germany, Poland and the United Kingdom being the principal suppliers. Woollen piece-goods increased from 2½ million yards to 2¾ million yards but lower prices reduced the value by Rs. 4·18 lakhs to Rs. 27·12 lakhs. About half of this value was represented by imports of shawl cloth from France. Blankets were mainly cheap rugs from Italy, and their value declined by Rs. 3·76 lakhs to Rs. 4·60 lakhs.

Silk.—Reduced purchases of silk piece-goods from China were chiefly responsible for a fall of Rs. 1·96 lakhs in the total value of imports of silk amounting to Rs. 6·25 lakhs.

Artificial Silk.—The value of imports of artificial silk advanced by Rs. 9·95 lakhs to Rs. 28·37 lakhs, 71 per cent. of which consisted of piece-goods from Japan. In spite of the heavy increase in import duty Japan has been able to supply over Rs. 20 lakhs' worth of these goods as against Rs. 13 lakhs' worth in the previous year, defying all competition by means of a gradual but substantial cut in prices.

Iron and Steel.—The main factors contributing to the decline, viz. from 105,651 tons valued at Rs. 166 lakhs to 58,358 tons valued at Rs. 90 lakhs, were the comparative cheapness of Indian products, the completion of the Lloyd Barrage and other projects, direct imports by certain Kathiawar ports and general economic depression. Of the total quantity imported, viz. 58,358 tons, 30,903 tons paid the protective duties.

The United Kingdom supplied 18,000 tons valued at Rs. 39 lakhs compared with 21,800 tons valued at Rs. 43 lakhs in the previous year. Belgium supplied 20,620 tons valued at Rs. 23 lakhs compared with 52,200 tons valued at Rs. 60 lakhs. Other Continental countries supplied 18,900 tons valued at Rs. 25 lakhs as against 27,240 tons valued at Rs. 49 lakhs, whilst the United States of America only sent 560 tons valued at Rs. 2·5 lakhs compared with 4,000 tons valued at Rs. 13·5 lakhs.

Other Metals.—A good demand from upcountry and Afghanistan accounted for the increase in the quantity of copper imported, viz. from 17,503 cwts. valued at Rs. 8·73 lakhs to 23,296 cwts. valued at Rs. 8·74 lakhs.

Machinery.—The value of imports of machinery increased from Rs. 116·22 lakhs to Rs. 139·40 lakhs. The increase under railway engines and tenders was most noticeable in arrivals from Belgium and Italy. Imports of electrical machinery advanced chiefly as the result of further developments in the Uhl River Valley Hydro-electric scheme.

Cutlery, Hardware, Implements and Instruments.—Imports were valued at Rs. 67·19 lakhs, a decrease of Rs. 15·51 lakhs for which electrical instruments from the United Kingdom and Germany, and metal lamps from Germany were mostly responsible.

Chemicals, Drugs and Medicines.—The value contracted by Rs. 2·14 lakhs to Rs. 42·69 lakhs to which chemicals contributed Rs. 28·62 lakhs and drugs and medicines Rs. 14·07 lakhs.

Vehicles.—Apart from the general economic depression and adverse exchange rates, the increase in customs duty, coupled with the heavy excise duty on petrol etc., brought the imports of motor cars and lorries almost to a standstill.

The total number of motor cars imported during the year was 824 valued at Rs. 17·35 lakhs as against 1,462 valued at Rs. 33·25 lakhs.

Postal Articles not specified.—The value of articles imported by post decreased by Rs. 9·37 lakhs to Rs. 39·27 lakhs to which the United Kingdom contributed Rs. 34·62 lakhs. The total amount of import duty realized on all articles imported by parcel post rose from Rs. 7·68 lakhs to Rs. 10·46 lakhs and that on articles contained in letter packets from Rs. 56,946 to Rs. 80,580; the chief reason for the increase being the higher rates of duty in force.

EXPORTS

Grain, Pulse and Flour.—During the year under report, the total quantity shipped under this head declined from 279,832 tons to 128,335 tons in quantity and from Rs. 323·12 lakhs to Rs. 122·68 lakhs in value. Under wheat, the total shipments declined from 194,917 tons to 18,664 tons in quantity and from Rs. 191·08 lakhs to Rs. 11·78 lakhs in value. A smaller crop coupled with a good internal demand kept the prices of Indian wheat above the level of world prices, which ruled easier owing to large surplus stocks in other wheat-producing countries with the result that there was almost a complete absence of foreign demand for Indian wheat. Under rice the decline was from 43,638 tons valued at Rs. 74·89 lakhs to 37,848 tons valued at Rs. 52·08 lakhs. Under wheat flour, reduced purchases by Mauritius, Bahrein and Ceylon accounted for the decline of 1,635 tons in the total quantity shipped, viz. 24,858 tons.

Cotton.—Exports of cotton decreased by 29 per cent. in quantity and 33 per cent. in value owing chiefly to general trade depression in most consuming centres and to the unfavourable parities of Indian cotton to American cotton as a result of a smaller crop and a greater demand by the Indian mills. The total quantity shipped, viz. 128,476 tons, was lower than in any of the preceding six years. Japan was our best customer and accounted for 35 per cent. of the total exports. Shipments to other countries declined, noticeably those to the United Kingdom (—13,000 tons), China (—10,000 tons),

Italy (−9,700 tons) and Germany (−6,100 tons). The extent of the demands of the Indian mills is indicated by shipments of 14,074 tons and 7,028 tons to Bombay and Madras respectively, as against 5,948 tons and 1,680 tons last year. The imposition of an import duty on cotton in October 1931 will doubtless restrict imports of foreign cotton into India but on the other hand it is hoped that it will stimulate the cultivation of finer qualities of cotton in this country, especially in the enormous areas which will be brought under irrigation by the Sukkur barrage.

Wool.—The total exports under this head increased from 17 million lbs. valued at Rs. 143·95 lakhs to 23 million lbs. valued at Rs. 179·17 lakhs, due to larger shipments to the United Kingdom in anticipation of a rise in prices which however did not materialize.

Seeds.—Shipments under this head increased from 32,685 tons to 53,800 tons and the value from Rs. 51·73 lakhs to Rs. 72·76 lakhs. Rapeseed, the most important seed exported from this province, increased from 31,951 tons to 52,797 tons and the value from Rs. 49·97 lakhs to Rs. 70·90 lakhs, due to the shortage of the Indian groundnut crop.

Hides and Skins, Raw.—The decrease in the exports of raw hides, viz. from 2,949 tons valued at Rs. 26 lakhs to 1,628 tons valued at Rs. 11·54 lakhs, was due to a continual decline in prices and the resultant lack of confidence. Raw skins also decreased by 6 per cent. in quantity, but lower prices reduced the value by 24 per cent. A restricted demand for raw goat skins by the United States of America accounted for the deficiency.

Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured.—The value of exports of leather, the most important article in this class, fell from Rs. 7·50 lakhs to Rs. 4·38 lakhs owing to a smaller demand for dressed goat and sheep skins from the United Kingdom.

Foreign Merchandise, Re-exported.—This recorded a further decline from Rs. 110·44 lakhs to Rs. 91·41 lakhs. Under foreign wool, mostly from Kandahar, there was an increase in the re-exports from 3,336,495 lbs. to 4,786,613 lbs. and the value from Rs. 21·55 lakhs to Rs. 22·38 lakhs, due to large exports to the United Kingdom in the hope of improved prices.

COASTING TRADE

The aggregate value of the coasting trade of the port of Karachi including Government stores and treasure amounted to Rs. 17·99 crores as against Rs. 15·59 crores in the preceding year. Both Imports and Exports showed increases, the former increasing from Rs. 10·59 crores to Rs. 11·34 crores, and the latter from Rs. 5 crores to Rs. 6·65 crores.

SUBORDINATE PORTS

22. *Keti Bandar, Sirganda and Shah Bandar.*—In August 1931 the new port of Shah Bandar was opened. The total value of the entire trade with these three ports, which is confined to the coasting trade, declined from Rs. 7·73 lakhs to Rs. 5·63 lakhs, to which Keti Bandar contributed 58 per cent., Sirganda 30 per cent. and Shah Bandar 12 per cent. Rice is the chief article of trade, and Keti Bandar exported 803 tons of rice to Cutch and 45 tons to Karachi, and Sirganda and Shah Bandar respectively sent 2,039 tons and 743 tons to Cutch. Keti Bandar also exported firewood worth Rs. 47,212 to Kathiawar, Rs. 24,717 to Cutch and Rs. 216 to Karachi.

SHIPPING

The total number of vessels engaged in the foreign trade decreased from 1,261 to 1,218 and the tonnage from 1,930,842 to 1,569,594 tons. The average tonnage per steamer declined further from 2,990 tons to 2,869 tons. In all 886 steamers entered the port of Karachi as against 941 in the previous year. The number of vessels flying the British Flag decreased from 714 to 698.

TRAFFIC BY AIR

Karachi is the principal air port in India. There were five regular weekly services running to and from England, France, Holland, Java and French Cochin China, and intervening countries. During the year 214 aeroplanes called at Karachi air port as against 111 in 1930-31, an increase of 93 per cent.

TRADE OF ADEN

The trade of Aden is mainly transhipment, the port being a centre of distribution to and from the neighbouring countries. The principal business is in coffee, hides, skins, cotton piece-goods and salt.

The total value of the private Sea-borne and Land trade of Aden decreased from Rs. 10·57 crores to Rs. 9·40 crores. The Sea-borne trade alone decreased from Rs. 10·25 crores

to Rs. 9·19 crores. The total value of Indian trade decreased from Rs. 1·53 crores to Rs. 1·31 crores. Land trade also decreased from Rs. 32·10 lakhs to Rs. 20·29 lakhs, while Government transactions increased from Rs. 36·85 lakhs to about Rs. 38·73 lakhs.

The total value of the Import trade, exclusive of treasure, decreased from Rs. 5·46 crores to Rs. 4·97 crores. The value of articles of food, drink and tobacco decreased from Rs. 1·43 crores to Rs. 1·24 crores due chiefly to grain and pulse, provisions, sugar, tobacco, liquor and fruits and vegetables which decreased both in quantity and value. The total value of raw materials and produce and articles mainly unmanufactured also decreased from Rs. 1·88 crores to Rs. 1·78 crores. Coal, gum and resins, hides and skins, seeds and fodder mainly accounted for the decrease. The total value of articles wholly or mainly manufactured decreased from Rs. 2·05 crores to Rs. 1·83 crores. Drugs and medicines, hardware, glassware, machinery and mill-work and yarn and textile fabrics were responsible for the decrease; while increases were noted in piece-goods grey, instruments, building materials, apparel, boots and shoes.

The total value of the export Sea-borne trade, exclusive of treasure, amounted to Rs. 3·24 crores as compared with Rs. 3·70 crores the year previous, showing a decrease of Rs. 46·28 lakhs. Articles of food, drink and tobacco decreased from Rs. 1·36 crores to Rs. 1·35 crores. The principal decreases were in grain and pulse, fruits and vegetables, provisions, spices, sugar and cigarettes. Under raw materials and produce the total value decreased from Rs. 66·28 lakhs to Rs. 47·66 lakhs. Gums and resins and hides and skins contributed to the decrease while ivory, pearls unset and specimens decreased. Articles wholly or mainly manufactured also decreased from Rs. 1·64 crores to Rs. 1·37 crores, apparels, drugs and medicines, hardware and cutlery, machinery and mill-work, textile fabrics and silk piece-goods were mainly responsible for the decrease.

The total imports of treasure decreased by Rs. 9·24 lakhs and exports by Rs. 31,500. Imports of gold chiefly in bullion and sovereign decreased while exports to Bombay increased.

The total Sea-borne trade, excluding treasure, amounted to Rs. 8·21 crores against Rs. 9·17 crores the year previous, the British Empire exhibiting the largest total, viz. Rs. 3·89 crores with a percentage of 47·38 of which India's share was Rs. 1·13 crores.

The number of vessels that entered the port was 1,483, with a tonnage of 5,813,623, against 1,577, with a tonnage of 5,805,529, the year previous. The number of British steamers decreased from 805 to 762.

During recent years, Aden has developed rapidly as an oil bunkering port. This is due mainly to its favourable geographical position, as it is nearer to the Persian oil fields than any other port on the main shipping route between Europe and the East.

Land Trade.—Apart from the Sea-borne trade, there is a Land Trade between Aden and the Mainland of Arabia carried by Camel Caravan. The total value of the produce decreased from Rs. 18·17 lakhs to Rs. 14·40 lakhs, chiefly in animals, cotton raw, coffee, drugs and medicines. Exports decreased from Rs. 13·93 lakhs to Rs. 5·89 lakhs.

CHAPTER VII

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

THE Public Works Department has long been an important feature of the British administration in India. Its history dates from 1854 when it first came to be organised on a definite basis in succession to the old military boards, constituted mainly for the carrying out of military works.

For administrative purposes the work of the Department is divided into two sections: (i) Roads and Buildings and (ii) Irrigation.

During the year under review the Roads and Buildings Branch of the Public Works Department of the Presidency executed works involving a total expenditure of Rs. 117·8 lakhs. Nearly Rs. 6 lakhs were spent on buildings connected with Central Services and nearly Rs. 20 lakhs on buildings connected with Provincial Services.

Central Workshops, Dapuri.—During the year under report the total value of the work done at the Workshops was Rs. 1·22 lakhs as against Rs. 1·67 lakhs last year. The working loss, on paper, of Rs. 56,188 was due entirely to trade depression.

ARCHITECTURAL

Designs and sketch plans were made for several buildings in connection with offices, courts, quarters, hospitals and educational institutions in various places in the Presidency.

ELECTRICAL

Electricity has continued to attract the attention of the public in an increasing degree. One new license was granted in the year under report for the supply of electricity to Amalner and several more applications were under the consideration of Government. The number of licenses, excluding those since revoked but including permissions under section 28 of the Indian Electricity Act, in operation at the beginning of the year under report was 39, while at the end of the year the number operating was 40. The total expenditure incurred was Rs. 2·93 lakhs.

COMMUNICATIONS

Under this head the expenditure incurred was Rs. 49·63 lakhs of which Rs. 16·83 lakhs were spent on new works and Rs. 32·80 lakhs on repairs to roads and bridges.

ARBORICULTURE

Nurseries were maintained at various places and planting, watering and protection of road side trees continued to receive careful attention.

MISCELLANEOUS

Nearly Rs. 15 lakhs were spent on public health, water supply and drainage schemes and boring works.

IRRIGATION

GENERAL

Irrigation works in charge of the Public Works Department are divided into two distinct spheres, viz. (1) Sind and (2) the Deccan and Gujarat.

IRRIGATION IN SIND

The Province of Sind is situated beyond the influence of the South-West and North-East monsoons and in consequence its rainfall is normally small and unreliable. In such circumstances nine-tenths of the area cultivated may ordinarily be said to depend on irrigation by canals. The importance of the introduction of scientific and modern methods of irrigation to the province cannot therefore be over-estimated. Prior to the construction of the Lloyd Barrage and Canals Scheme nearly all the canal systems were primitive inundation ones, dependent on floods in the Indus, and in general the canals flowed only from the end of May to the beginning of October, the Jamrao canal system as the solitary exception receiving a perennial supply. The cultivation dependent on river inundations was principally " kharif " and even this was subject to insecurity of supply due to fluctuation in the river water levels. The low water supplies of the Indus in the winter season could be tapped only to a small extent and largely ran to waste in the Arabian Sea. As a result of the vagaries of a constantly changing river the inundation canals inevitably suffered from deficiency of supply during critical irrigation periods. From the year 1932, the area in Central Sind is receiving an assured perennial supply of water from the Lloyd Barrage Canals excepting that commanded by the Rice Canal on the right bank of the river. In parts of Upper and Lower Sind only, outside the sphere of influence of the Barrage, " Kharif " supply only continues to be available from the inundation canals.

IRRIGATION IN THE DECCAN AND GUJARAT

Irrigation in the Deccan and Gujarat differs materially from that in Sind. Rainfall is available for agricultural operations but is often precarious. Tanks and canals provide irrigation to valuable crops, such as sugarcane, and are a source of supply to other crops also when the rainfall is deficient or irregular.

The large irrigation systems in the Deccan are all of the same type. Each depends upon a storage lake near the head of one of the river valleys, where sufficient water is collected during the monsoon to supply a tract of country on either side of the river valley below. The water stored during the rains is let out during the dry months of the year in accordance with requirements ; and at a point on the river which may be as far as 50 miles from the main storage lake, a " pick-up-weir " is constructed across the river-course to divert the water into canals taking off on either side. In one case only, that of Lake Fife at Khadakwasla, near Poona, do the canals take off directly from the dam itself. These canals are aligned at a considerably flatter slope than that of the rivers and they are consequently able to diverge from the river itself on each side of the valley, so as to afford flow command to irrigable lands.

The total expenditure on all irrigation works in the Presidency during the year 1931–32 amounted to Rs. 432 lakhs, of which about Rs. 403 lakhs were spent in Sind and the balance in the Deccan and Gujarat. The amount spent on capital works, i.e. works for which both capital and revenue accounts are kept, was about Rs. 408 lakhs. The total receipts from these works amounted to Rs. 93 lakhs as compared with Rs. 98 lakhs, the average for the preceding three years. Of this amount, the revenue obtained in Sind was Rs. 74 lakhs and the balance of Rs. 19 lakhs was obtained in the Deccan and Gujarat. The area irrigated by the capital works in Sind was 33·67 lakhs acres as compared with 36 lakhs acres, the average of the previous three years, while in the Deccan and Gujarat it was 2 lakhs acres as compared with 2·35 lakhs acres, the average of the last three years. The area under irrigation by the non-capital works was 2·32 lakhs acres. These works did not yield any revenue as the expenditure thereon, viz. Rs. 24 lakhs, exceeded the receipts by nearly Rs. 6·5 lakhs.

SIND

The inundation of 1931 was, on the whole, a fairly good one.

INDUS RIVER COMMISSION

This body has been constituted for the regular survey and conservancy of the river Indus, the maintenance and supervision of the canal mouths and the control of important river embankments. Owing to the floods of 1929 and 1930, certain extensions of the protective river bunds were constructed and completed before the inundation of 1931. The estimated cost of extensions and improvements and special repairs sanctioned during the year amounted to Rs. 19·87 lakhs. Most of this expenditure was incurred in the Shikarpur Canals Division where extensive repairs and improvements were necessitated by the breaches which had occurred during the inundation of 1930.

LLOYD BARRAGE AND CANALS CONSTRUCTION

This scheme has its head-works on the river Indus at Sukkur and it is the largest single irrigation scheme undertaken in any part of India. The aim of the project is to provide an assured supply of water to an area of about 1·83 million acres in British territory which has hitherto received an indifferent supply from inundation canals. It also provides new irrigation to a further area of 3·62 million acres in Sind, the Khairpur State and the Nasirabad tehsil in Baluchistan. The main features of the scheme comprise a Barrage about a mile long with a bridge-way across the river Indus near Sukkur, three large canals taking off above the Barrage on the right bank and four on the left bank, with a separate head-regulator for each of the canals. The total expenditure on the project to end of March 1932 was about Rs. 17·32 crores.

The year under report was the seventh full working year and was devoted to the designing and excavation of many channels, including water-courses, and the construction of many masonry structures such as regulators, bridges, etc. The permanent works were all completed and the Barrage and the canals were formally opened by His Excellency the Viceroy on the 13th January 1932. Owing to the completion of the Lloyd Barrage works, the Sind Public Works Department and the Lloyd Barrage and Canals Construction Administrations were amalgamated and reorganized with effect from December 1931.

In the area outside the Barrage zone, work in connection with improvements to the Fuleli Canal system was continued and certain channels were remodelled. Improvements to the Narichach section in connection with the Kalri Remodelling Scheme were completed.

DECCAN AND GUJARAT

Northern Circle.—The Hathmati and Khari Cut is the only important canal system in Gujarat, the other irrigation works being small tanks dependent on local rainfall. The total area irrigated during the year under this system was about 15,600 acres.

Central Circle.—The Ekruk Tank at Sholapur, the Jamda Canals and the Krishna Canal are the important irrigation works in this Circle. The Ekruk Tank supplies water for irrigation, as also for domestic and industrial purposes to the Municipality and Mills of Sholapur and the Great Indian Peninsula Railway. The area irrigated during the year by the tank was 3,900 acres and the gross assessed revenue (irrigational and non-irrigational) amounted to Rs. 1,52,000.

Irrigation Development and Research Circle.—This Circle was opened in December 1927 in order to deal adequately with the scientific side of irrigational problems and practice, and the Nira Left Bank Canal and the Special Irrigation Divisions were placed under it. The Nira Left Bank Canal, the only irrigation system in this Circle, is about 100 miles long and commands a culturable area of about 150,000 acres. The total area irrigated during the year was 56,200 acres and the gross assessed revenue was Rs. 5,83,000.

DECCAN IRRIGATION CIRCLE

Mutha Canals.—This irrigation scheme comprises a storage reservoir at Khadakwasla, near Poona, known as Lake Fife, and the Mutha Right and Left Bank Canals, which are in the aggregate 88 miles long. The storage is utilised partly for irrigation and partly for supplying water for domestic purposes to the municipality and cantonments of Poona and Kirkee. The area irrigated during the year was about 13,600 acres.

Godavari Canals.—This scheme was completed in 1915-16 at a cost of about a crore of rupees. It irrigates lands in the south of Nasik District and in the north of Ahmednagar District. During the year the area of all crops irrigated was about 18,300 acres.

Pravara River Works.—This system comprises (*a*) the Wilson Dam at Bhandardara, 1,600 feet in length, impounding a storage of some 10,000 million cubic feet, (*b*) a pick-up-weir at Ojhar 890 feet long and (*c*) the Pravara Right and Left Bank Canals, 33 and 48 miles long, respectively. The area of all crops irrigated during the year was about 23,000 acres.

Lloyd Dam and Nira Right Bank Canal.—The Lloyd Dam at Bhatgar, 190 feet high and 5,300 feet long, is one of the largest

in the world. It impounds about 24,000 million cubic feet of water and supplies water to the old Nira Left Bank Canal and the new Nira Right Bank Canal, which are 100 and 106 miles long, respectively. The Nira Right Bank Canal irrigates mainly the western portion of Sholapur District which is notoriously liable to famine. The Lloyd Dam is now complete in all respects and irrigation from the Nira Right Bank Canal is gradually extending the area irrigated during the year being about 20,200 acres.

Southern Circle.—The Gokak Canal is the only important irrigation work in this Circle. The scheme consists of a weir across the Ghataprabha river at Dhupdal in the Belgaum District, 16 miles of main and branch canals and 36 miles of distributaries. The system supplies water for industrial purposes to the cotton mills at Gokak and to the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway. The area irrigated during the year was over 6,000 acres.

RAILWAYS

The Railway lines in the Bombay Presidency are not administered by the Bombay Government but are under the direct control of the Railway Board. The Railway Board has also control over the railway lines in the Indian States within the Presidency.

The general economic depression in this country and abroad has been responsible for heavy fall in the earnings so that the loss on railways in India for the year has been estimated at Rs. 9½ crores and the deficit for the next year (1932–33) at Rs. 7½ crores. In consequence the sum allotted for the construction of new railway lines is reduced to Rs. 1 crore which will nearly enable all the lines under construction to be completed. Unfortunately this Presidency has no share in the allotment of this sum.

The total length of railways open for traffic during the year under report including Sind was 5,946 miles inclusive of the length of 139 miles newly opened for traffic, namely—

(1) Tando-Adam-Nawabshah Section (south loop) of the Sind Left Bank Feeder Railways. Length 53·80 miles, broad gauge.

(2) Tharushah-Sakrand Section (chord line) of the Sind Left Bank Feeder Railways. Length 66·06 miles, broad gauge.

(Both these sections were opened for traffic on 10th December 1931.)

(3) Jhagadia-Netrang Branch of the Rajpipla State Railway. Length 18¾ miles, 2'-6" gauge. Opened for traffic on 1st March 1932.

There were no new lines under construction during the year. Surveys for the following lines were completed :—

(1) Bombay-Sind Connection, broad gauge, 268 miles.
(2) Sind Right Bank Feeders, broad gauge, 135 miles.
(3) Tando Mahomed Khan-Moghalbin (including Badin-Jungshahi), broad gauge, 72 miles.
(4) Pandharpur-Lonand extension, narrow gauge.

CHAPTER VIII

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL RELIEF

REVIEW OF PAST DECENNIUM—1921-30

BIRTHS AND DEATHS.—Broadly speaking the mortality rate excluding epidemics is about the same with a slight annual variation in the increase under fever, dysentery and diarrhœa and respiratory diseases.

Infantile Mortality.—The question of infantile and maternal mortality was taken up and possibly forcibly brought to the notice of the public in this Presidency during the past decennium. Several organizations such as the Infant Welfare Society, Baby Week Association, Lady Wilson Village Maternity Association, etc., have come into existence with the object of educating the public and offering facilities and amenities to both rural and town areas in matters of child welfare and maternal mortality. The efforts made by these bodies are reflected in certain towns where the activities are most marked.

The infant mortality rate for the decennium 1911-20 was 202·71 as compared with 177·30 during that of 1921-30. The number of Welfare Associations which was 9 in 1921 has now increased to 17.

With the object of focussing public attention for one week in a year on matters of health, Health Weeks continued to be celebrated from the year 1923, when two Shows were held. They have now become so popular that more than 100 shows are given every year.

Water-supplies and Drainage.—Striking improvement has been effected in the mortality from intestinal diseases as a result of the installations of piped water-supplies and drainage.

During the past decennium about 12 Municipalities introduced piped water-supplies while some of those already in existence have been improved. The demand for proper water-supply and drainage is increasing year by year with the result that many public bodies are now prepared to finance such undertakings by raising loans in their own areas.

Fairs and Festivals.—During the decennium 1911-21, only the largest fairs were tackled as a means of preventing cholera. Further progress has been made during the last decennium

and several of the minor fairs which form sources of danger to the big fairs are watched and controlled.

Epidemics.—The reduction in the death-rate can be attributed to reduced mortality from epidemics as can be seen from the following table :—

Years	Deaths from the chief epidemic diseases	Influenza	Total mortality
1901–10	1,286,214	....	6,394,831
1911–20	717,525	1,097,957	7,223,309
1921–30	269,089	7,982	5,144,403

Inoculations.—Decided progress has been made in the education of the people in the matter of inoculation against epidemic diseases, but it is generally only when the epidemic is upon them that they get themselves inoculated.

Blind Relief.—The first Association for Blind Relief work began its operations in 1919 in the Ratnagiri District under the guidance of Mr. Henderson, the then Collector. A few centres were started by the Salvation Army in Gujarat and financed by the Blind Relief Association. The Association has now branches in 6 places and they are doing very useful work.

Health Staff.—The scheme for appointing Medical Officers of Health and Sanitary Inspectors was sanctioned in 1913.

During the past decennium, 7 Medical Officers of Health and 51 Sanitary Inspectors were appointed to look after the sanitation of cities and towns while during 1921–30, additional 9 Medical Officers of Health and 41 Sanitary Inspectors were appointed.

Factories.—The Assistant Directors of Public Health were appointed *ex-officio* Inspectors of Factories in 1923, and till the end of 1930 they inspected 310 Ginning and Pressing Factories and Mills. As a result of these inspections, various improvements have been effected in the sanitary condition of factories.

VITAL STATISTICS

Apart from the prevalence of cholera, the health of the Presidency as a whole compared favourably with the previous year.

In spite of an increase in the deaths from cholera, there was a fall in the total death-rate for the Presidency from 29·53 to 23·82 which was due chiefly to improvement in the death-rates

under the headings Fevers (11·65 to 8·95), Small-pox (1·11 to ·09) and Plague (·26 to ·16). Respiratory Diseases showed a slight decrease from 99,678 to 97,969 while there was a slight increase from 167,361 to 168,093 under all other causes. The number of deaths from dysentery and diarrhœa and injuries during the year was practically the same.

Other favourable features of the year were (*a*) the lowest number of deaths from small-pox, (*b*) the lowest number of deaths from plague since its importation into the Presidency, (*c*) a decrease in infant mortality from 187·14 in the previous year to 161·64, (*d*) an increase in the number of births from 716,952 in the previous year to 786,751, (*e*) an excess of births over deaths of 267,374—an increase of births that is to say without a corresponding rise in the infantile death-rate which often accompanies it.

Births.—The European population according to the Census of 1931 is 24,604, showing an increase of 5,357. 283 births were recorded against 227 equal to a birth-rate of 11·50 per mille against 11·79 in 1930. There were 118 deaths equal to a death-rate of 4·80 as compared with 167 and 8·68 respectively in the previous year.

The Anglo-Indian population according to the Census of 1931 is 16,106. 286 births were registered against 231 in the previous year. The birth-rate per mille of population, for the year under report, was 17·38 as compared with 22·60 in 1930. There were 189 deaths as against 157 in 1930. The death-rate per mille was 11·73 against 15·36 in the previous year.

Among the civil Indian population of 21,808,756 according to the 1931 Census, 786,571 births were registered showing an increase of 69,619 over the figure for 1930. The birth-rate for the year for the Presidency as a whole was 36·07 against 37·41 in the previous year.

Of the 27 districts in the Presidency the highest birth-rate was recorded in West Khandesh (47·37) and the lowest (17·26) in Hyderabad. In the Presidency as a whole, the birth-rate for rural areas was 37·22 and for urban areas 31·22 against 38·89 and 32·09 respectively in 1930. The births recorded in Bombay City were 26,850 or 1,804 more than in the previous year, equivalent to a birth-rate of 23·12 or an increase of 1·32. The birth-rate for the province of Sind was 22·77 against 21·24 in 1930. Out of 786,571 births, 409,100 were males and 377,471 females equal to ratios of 18·76 and 17·31 per mille of population. Still-births numbered 11,693 as against 11,428 in the previous year.

Deaths.—The year under report showed a decrease in mortality as compared with the previous year, a decrease appearing under all headings except cholera. The total number of deaths registered was 519,377 as compared with 566,003 in 1930 and 542,818 the quinquennial mean. 106·11 males died for every 100 females. The recorded death-rate for the whole Presidency works out to 23·82. The death-rate in 1930 was 29·53, the quinquennial mean being 28·32. Excluding Bombay City and Sind, the death-rate for the Presidency was 26·70 as against 32·52 in 1930, for Sind 12·05 as against 18·01 in 1930 and for Bombay City 21·43 as against 23·79 in 1930. The death-rates for rural and urban areas for the Presidency as a whole were 23·71 and 24·27 respectively as against 29·43 and 29·96 in 1930. The birth-rate exceeded the death-rate by 12·25.

Infant Mortality.—The infant mortality rate for the Presidency was 161·64 per 1,000 registered births, as against 187·14 in 1930. The male and female rates were 170·23 and 152·32 respectively as compared with 194·78 and 178·89 in the previous year. In Bombay City, the infant mortality rate was 273·71 compared with 298·33 in 1930. The urban and rural infantile death-rates per 1,000 registered births for the Presidency as a whole were 223·11 and 161·64 respectively as compared with 256·43 and 173·19 in the previous year.

Causes of Death.—Deaths among all Indians totalled 519,377, cholera being responsible for 18,646; small-pox for 1,873; plague for 3,506; fevers for 195,139; dysentery and diarrhœa for 26,517; respiratory diseases for 97,969; injuries for 7,634; and all other causes for 168,093.

SANITATION

Municipalities.—There are in all 155 Municipalities with a total population of 3,046,009 souls. Their aggregate income excluding opening balance amounted to Rs. 3,84,02,690.

Local Boards.—The aggregate income of 27 District Local Boards and 222 Taluka Local Boards amounted to Rs. 2,04,00,814. Of this Rs. 10,00,593 were spent on works connected with Public Health.

Village Sanitation.—Under the Bombay Village Panchayats Act (IX of 1920) and the Village Sanitation Act, 1889, 554 Village Panchayats and Sanitary Committees were working during the year. In addition there were 27 Notified Area Committees and one Sanitary Board.

Pilgrim Centres.—The usual medical arrangements at the Ashadhi fair, Kartiki fair and various other fairs in Nasik,

Belgaum and Gujarat were ready well in advance before the pilgrims began to arrive. The incoming and outgoing pilgrims were inspected at the railway stations and at the octroi nakas. All these fairs passed off with a clean bill of health.

VACCINATION

During the year 1931–32, 639,984 persons were primarily vaccinated and 115,955 persons re-vaccinated against 594,611 and 331,344, respectively, in the previous year.

Of the primary vaccinations performed 579,313 or 90·52 per cent. were successful and 457 or ·07 per cent. unsuccessful. The percentage of successful re-vaccinations was 25·51.

Vaccine Institute, Belgaum.—During the year, 1,200,465 doses of lymph were issued as compared with 1,414,090 during the previous year. Lymph was supplied both in the Presidency and outside.

The expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 66,774, excluding the cost of the new refrigerator. The cost of vaccination came to Rs. 6,37,315 against Rs. 6,57,641 in the previous year.

THE HAFFKINE INSTITUTE

The Institute continued to function during the year as (*a*) the centre for manufacture of plague vaccine for the whole of India, (*b*) the Provincial Bacteriological Laboratory for the Bombay Presidency, and (*c*) the centre for manufacture of antirabic vaccine for Bombay Presidency and adjoining areas, and treatment centre for Bombay City. In addition, the Institute carried out research work on plague and other subjects as in former years, largely with the assistance of the Indian Research Fund Association.

Anti-plague Vaccine.—The demands for vaccine continue to be high in proportion to the incidence of plague mortality and the slight rise in plague during the year over the number of cases occurring during 1930 was reflected in an increase in issues.

During the year, 31 doses of vaccine were issued for each plague death registered as against 32 in the previous year. A fresh interest in the value of antiplague inoculation has recently been shown and a special enquiry into the subject has been made by the *Commite de l' Office International d' Hygiene Public.* Reports on the results obtained with vaccine in different countries have been submitted to the Committee including one from the Institute. These reports have been the subject of discussion at the meeting of the Committee in Paris

and it has been made evident that the vaccine prepared at Parel has given better results than that prepared elsewhere. As a result of this investigation there have been enquiries from other countries as to the possibility of supply of vaccine from the Haffkine Institute, and in regard to the methods of preparation of the vaccine adopted.

The daily examination of rats collected by the Municipality was continued during the year. Epizootic plague, as observed by examination of rats at the Institute, has never been absent from Bombay since the first introduction of the disease in 1896. The epizootic is now at a very low level although few days pass without some plague-infected rats being found.

Pharmacological Unit.—The principal investigation carried out during the year by Father Caius and Dr. Mhaskar was in connection with scorpion stings. The toxicity of the venom of various species was determined in relation to body weight and the conclusion arrived at that a scorpion sting could in no case be fatal to a human being. The various traditional Indian plant remedies for scorpion bite were investigated and found to be without value.

Biochemical Unit.—An extensive investigation was undertaken into the normal standards of chemical constituents of the blood of adult Indians in order to establish a basis for a future investigation into the changes occurring in the blood in kidney and other diseases in persons whose dietary and in particular, whose protein intake differs widely from that used in Western countries for which standards have been established.

Antirabic Department.—The total number of persons dealt with rose from 736 to 1,061 with a mortality of 0·28 per cent. which compares very favourably with that of other Institutes in India.

VETERINARY

Bombay Presidency Proper.—There was a considerable reduction in the mortality from contagious diseases during the year, 21,414 deaths being reported against 34,852 in 1930–31. The decrease is mainly due to reduced mortality from Rinderpest. On the other hand, the number of outbreaks of contagious diseases reported and attended exceeded that of the previous year by 738, this being due to an increase in the number of outbreaks of Foot and Mouth disease. The number of outbreaks attended were 3,219 of which 3,169 were reported, against 2,481 attended in 1930–31. Outbreaks occurred in all districts in the Presidency and in the City of Bombay.

The number of attacks and deaths due to Rinderpest was 32,359 and 14,081 respectively. The disease was widespread in all districts except Ratnagiri.

There was a considerable increase in the number of cases affected with Foot and Mouth disease, 67,970 attacks and 150 deaths being reported from all districts. Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia was also reported from all districts of the Presidency. There were 4,302 attacks and 3,623 deaths. Black Quarter was responsible for 2,616 attacks and 2,468 deaths.

Preventive measures were taken to protect animals by serum inoculation or vaccination against contagious diseases. The number of animals inoculated and vaccinated was 1,16,984. The staff visited 7,056 villages and treated 52,947 cases for contagious diseases and 17,586 cases for non-contagious diseases.

The expenditure of the Department amounted to Rs. 5·44 lakhs.

Sind.—The total mortality reported among cattle from contagious diseases rose from 13,375 to 29,347 in the year under report. Rinderpest among bovine cattle was responsible for the increase, there being 27,130 deaths as against 10,455 deaths in the previous year. The disease was prevalent in all the districts of the Province. Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia was responsible for 868 deaths while Parasitic Gastritic for 258 deaths.

Preventive inoculations against Rinderpest were carried out in the case of 212 outbreaks, the number of animals inoculated being 14,737, while the number of inoculations against Hæmorrhagic Septicæmia was 1,420.

The total expenditure of the Department amounted to Rs. 1·31 lakhs.

CHEMICAL ANALYSERS

The work of the Chemical Analysers to Government in Bombay and Sind is connected with the protection of the public either by the examination of the data relating to crime or suspected crime or by the examination of food-stuffs, water, etc. In Bombay, the total number of examinations undertaken by the Chemical Analyser, during the year 1931, were 8,817 out of which 4,183 related to medico-legal cases inclusive of examination of various articles and 4,033 samples of the Excise Department. Cases of suspected human poisoning numbered 412, cases of suspected animal poisoning 46, stain cases 460 and miscellaneous 37. Of the cases of suspected human poisoning, poison was detected in 184 cases involving 189 persons of whom 97 died.

In the Chemico-Bacteriological Laboratory at Karachi, the chemical and bacteriological examination of raw and chlorinated water was carried out daily throughout the year. In addition several medico-legal cases were dealt with.

MENTAL HOSPITALS

The total population of the Mental Hospitals during the year 1931 was 2,686 as compared with 2,560 in 1930. Admissions numbered 576 males and 193 females. The daily average strength was 1,925·4 as compared with 1,857·2 in the previous year. Three hundred and twenty-four patients were discharged cured, 112 improved, 47 not improved and 53 were discharged for various reasons. The health of the patients was generally good during the year. There were 208 deaths against 152 in 1930. The total number of criminal insanes was 189 males and 11 females with a daily average strength of 126·2.

The net expenditure amounted to Rs. 3·85 lakhs against Rs. 4·39 lakhs in the previous year.

ACWORTH LEPER ASYLUM, MATUNGA

The Acworth Leper Asylum was founded in the year 1890 by Mr. H. A. Acworth, C.I.E., I.C.S., the then Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay, with the aid of public donations. It provides for the segregation of pauper Indian lepers and accommodates 364 lepers—222 males and 142 females.

It is in charge of a Resident Superintendent who works under the orders of a Board of Management.

The Board consists of 20 Members, of whom 3 are appointed by Government, 5 by the Municipal Corporation of the City of Bombay and 12 are co-opted annually.

The cost of maintaining lepers who are not residents of Bombay is borne by Government and that of Bombay lepers by the Municipality. The other sources of income are the sewage farm and occasional donations.

The total number of persons treated in the asylum during the year was 1,267—1,063 males, 202 females and 2 children. There were 71 deaths during the year. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 1·10 lakhs.

Lepers who wish to work are provided with employment in the garden or the sewage farm and are paid a small allowance which they use in buying petty luxuries from a co-operative shop which is provided on the Asylum premises under their own management.

KONDHWA LEPER ASYLUM, POONA

The Asylum is situated about six miles to the south of Poona near the village of Kondhwa. It was established in the year 1913 by the United Free Church of Scotland Mission to Lepers, which has its headquarters in London, and which carries on most important work for sufferers from leprosy throughout India and other countries. The Asylum buildings were erected by the Mission with the assistance of a grant from Government. The Mission provides without charge the services of a Superintendent and a Chief Medical Officer. A Subordinate Medical Officer, appointed locally, is in charge under the Superintendent.

Towards the maintenance of the Asylum, Government makes a monthly capitation grant, while the Poona City and Suburban Municipalities, the Poona Cantonment Committee, and the Poona District Local Board, make grants of a fixed annual amount.

The total number of persons under treatment in the Asylum at the end of the year was 126 made up of 68 men, 50 women and 8 children. New admissions numbered 48. Twenty-four men and 12 women were under special medical treatment.

The general health of the inmates was satisfactory throughout the year. The number of deaths stood at 9.

A small creche is maintained on the Asylum premises for children separated from their leper parents. Unfortunately this institution is not taken advantage of as readily as it should be by the parents.

BRITISH EMPIRE LEPROSY RELIEF ASSOCIATION (INDIAN COUNCIL), BOMBAY BRANCH

The report of the Association for 1931 gives the total number of treatment centres as 38, an increase of four over the previous year. It is estimated that there are 40,000 lepers in the Presidency, the depressed classes and the untouchables constituting almost half the number. The majority belonged to the agricultural classes and lower domestic and necessary services, but the disease is found in all classes of society. During the year 1,450 patients were treated, but the prolonged period of treatment required to exhibit any decided improvement and the fact that many patients had to walk long distances to attend a centre affected continuous attendance. Of the cases treated, between 50 and 65 per cent. exhibited decided improvement and absolute cures were reported in 21 instances. The expenditure during the year amounted to about Rs 17,000.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

Only skilled labourers are recruited for emigration from the Ports of Bombay and Karachi, and are engaged by authorised recruiting Agents under agreements approved by Government. During the year 1931, owing to the universal economic depression, a comparative lowering of the standard of remuneration was noticed but this was not objected to by the emigrants. In Sind the flow of emigration again decreased.

The total number of emigrants who signed agreements before the Protector of Emigrants, Bombay, and proceeded overseas was 806 and the number of those who returned after the termination of their agreements was 1,425. The number of skilled workers who proceeded from the Port of Karachi was 347, and seven returned to that port. During the year, 119 complaints were received by the Protector of Emigrants, Bombay, from emigrants against their employers. In 30 cases the claims were admitted by their employers and the dues were paid to the complainants, in 82 cases the complaints were found to be exaggerated, six were under investigation and the remaining case was decided by the British Consul.

There was neither immigration nor emigration of an abnormal nature during the year under report anywhere in the Districts except the yearly exodus of agricultural labourers, who every year migrate to industrial centres in search of work on the termination of their harvesting season and return to their villages at the commencement of the monsoon. Even this seasonal migration was on a very small scale inasmuch as on the one hand, the season was fairly good, and on the other, there was very little demand for labour in the towns owing to depression in trade. The Bombay riots also tended to check migration in some measure. In Sind, the large number of labourers who had migrated to Sukkur returned to their homes owing to the completion of the Barrage works. The number of Shikarpuris going out to Persia, Afghanistan and other places for trade, considerably decreased. Emigration to Assam Tea Plantations from the Panch Mahals district decreased from 237 persons in the preceding year to 28 in the year under report. The inflow of labour to the irrigated tracts from the non-irrigated parts of the districts during the sugarcane crushing season continued as usual while forest contractors and owners of gins and presses at Nandurbar employed a good many people from Gujarat and the Deccan for cutting timber and also as workers in their factories.

CHAPTER IX

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

MUNICIPALITIES

DURING the past decade the policy of Government has been to give more and more power to Local Bodies and, where control is exercised, to use that control solely for the purpose of safeguarding the interests of the tax-payers, especially where Government funds have been lent for local purposes. This policy is especially noticeable in the case of municipalities. In Bombay City the powers of the Corporation are practically uncontrolled, while in the mofussil Government control has been to a very considerable extent relaxed. There are in the Presidency 30 Municipal Boroughs and 124 District Municipalities. The former are governed by the Bombay Municipal Boroughs Act, 1925, and the latter by the provisions of the Bombay District Municipal Act, 1901.

The principal duties of municipalities lie in the direction of the provision and maintenance of public and utility services such as roads, dispensaries, water supply, sanitation and education. They have power to raise funds both by direct and indirect taxation. Moreover, when the circumstances of a case require it and the Local Body is prepared to make adequate efforts to help itself, Government renders assistance both by loans and grants-in-aid towards the cost of big undertakings. By this means Poona, Lonavla, Nasik, Jalgaon, Karad, Sholapur, Bijapur, Dharwar, Hubli, Hyderabad, Sukkur and other towns have been provided with an improved water supply and Poona with a complete system of underground drainage. In some cases, where the question of good water supply is of more than local importance, water-works have been constructed entirely at Government expense. Pandharpur, a great pilgrim centre, is a case in point. Town improvements and the opening out of congested and insanitary areas are other objects for which Government make liberal grants. Considerable improvements in the sanitary services of urban areas have been brought about by Government's assistance. Municipalities with a population of 15,000 and over may appoint Health Officers and Sanitary Inspectors and Government bear two-thirds of the cost of the Health Officers and one-half of the cost of Sanitary Inspectors.

Municipalities are now allowed practically a free hand in the matter of selection and appointment of their Chief Officers.

During the year under report, the Municipality of Nadiad was dissolved, as it was not duly constituted as required by law, and a Committee of Management was appointed by the Commissioner to carry on the Municipal administration. Of the two Municipalities, Saswad and Indapur, in the Poona District, which had been superseded, the former continued to be managed throughout the year but the latter was reconstituted with a special constitution. The Mahableshwar and Satara Suburban Municipalities in the Satara District continued to be wholly nominated bodies. The Municipality of Bubak in Sind was abolished during the year.

The aggregate ordinary income of the Municipalities excluding items under the head "Extraordinary" and "Debt" increased from Rs. 222·70 lakhs to Rs. 229·85 lakhs, the Central Division, Bombay Suburban District and Sind being responsible for the increase. The incidence of taxation was highest at Matheran (Rs. 17-1-8) and lowest in Ilkal (Rs. 0-6-5). The aggregate expenditure, including items under the head "Extraordinary" and "Debt", amounted to over Rs. 406 lakhs, an increase of over Rs. 16 lakhs, the Northern Division, Bombay Suburban District and Sind being mainly responsible for the increase. Sind alone contributed to an increase of over Rs. 14½ lakhs, while the Central and Southern Divisions were responsible for a decrease of nearly Rs. 3 lakhs. The total liabilities of the various municipalities on account of loans at the end of the year stood at Rs. 187·40 lakhs, the Ahmedabad Municipality alone being responsible for over Rs. 65½ lakhs. Over Rs. 9 lakhs were repaid during the year.

Government in reviewing the working of the Municipalities in the Bombay Presidency during 1930–31, remarked as follows :—

"The most unsatisfactory feature of the year was the growing tendency exhibited by many Municipalities to go outside the sphere assigned to them in the Municipal Acts and to allow their administration of local affairs to be warped by political considerations. By passing resolutions regarding political matters, by adjourning their meetings to mark sympathy with the leaders of the civil disobedience movement or their disapprobation of measures taken by Government, by publicly exhibiting congress emblems, and by other gestures of hostility to Government, many municipalities were foolish enough to subordinate their practical duties as bodies responsible only for local civil administration to outside considerations and commit themselves to actions which must alienate the

sympathy not only of Government but of large classes for whose health and welfare they are directly responsible. The mismanagement of primary education by the Broach and Ahmedabad municipalities, who caused the studies of the school children and the work of the teaching staff to be constantly interrupted by requiring them to take part in objectionable political demonstrations led to the withdrawal in both cases of their educational grants from Government. Government have exercised great patience in this matter, but they have made their policy abundantly clear, and they expect municipalities to observe it in future.

Apart from this regrettable tendency, which has in most municipalities been less in evidence since the end of the year under review, it is difficult to contemplate the year's record with much satisfaction. The spirit of faction and communal tension was as rife as ever in many places, and at Surat led to the complete breakdown of the Municipal administration. Financial depression clouded the horizon, and resulted in a fall in revenue which was not counterbalanced by adequate retrenchment or fresh taxation. At the same time there was a grave increase in the amount of unrecovered arrears of taxes. The year generally was not marked by any substantial progress except in a few towns where one or two public-spirited individuals in positions of responsibility were able to inspire their fellow councillors with their own enthusiasm. The reports of the Examiner of Local Fund Accounts, disclosing as they do far too many instances of failure to rectify faults brought to notice in previous audits, of slackness in recovery of arrears, of disregard of the provisions of Acts, rules, and bylaws, and of irregular expenditure, make melancholy reading and do not indicate that any real progress is taking place.

Government regret that on the threshold of a further stage in the reforms, their verdict on Municipal administration generally must be so unfavourable. At the same time they realize that the year under review was one of special difficulty for municipalities, and that on the whole and in spite of faults, the municipalities succeeded in carrying out their duties without serious public complaint. They recognise that since the end of the period, to which this review relates, there has been some improvement in the tone of Municipal administration and they have noted with pleasure a number of instances in which the Commissioners have commended the administration of individual councils. As public interest in this important branch of the administration grows, they believe that municipalities will gradually respond more effectively to the demands

that are being made on them for a constantly higher standard of public service, and they consider that in the long run a real and general improvement must come as the result of an insistent demand for it from below rather than of pressure from above."

BOMBAY MUNICIPALITY

During the year under report, the total income of the Municipality amounted to Rs. 319·14 lakhs as against Rs. 320·46 lakhs and the expenditure Rs. 323·28 lakhs as against Rs. 326·47 lakhs, thus resulting in a deficit of Rs. 4·14 lakhs, chiefly due to the heavy fall in the imports of dutiable articles. A decrease in expenditure of Rs. 9·30 lakhs under Water Works, Medical Relief and Education, Street cleansing and Roads, Drains and Sewers, was counterbalanced by an increase in expenditure of Rs. 6·11 lakhs under General Superintendence, Primary Education, Mechanical, City Improvement Trust and Debt charges—a net decrease of Rs. 3·19 lakhs. The incidence of taxation per head for the year came to Rs. 23-2-0 against Rs. 24-1-2 for the preceding year.

The expenditure on Capital Works amounted to Rs. 19·05 lakhs. Reduction of debt amounted to Rs. 30·31 lakhs.

The loan liabilities of the Corporation at the close of the year stood at Rs. 17·72 crores. The total sinking fund investments amounted to Rs. 3·28 crores.

The net demand in respect of property taxes was Rs. 270·89 lakhs and the collection Rs. 217·82 lakhs, leaving an outstanding balance of Rs. 53·07 lakhs.

The total quantity of water received during the year from Tansa and Vehar Lakes was 32,106 million gallons, showing an average of 87·96 million gallons per day against an average of 82·26 million gallons per day in the preceding year. No water was drawn from Tulsi and Powai Lakes. Of the above supply, 2·13 million gallons per day were given to the suburbs. The average daily supply to the City per head for all purposes was 74·13 gallons.

The Fire Brigade received 459 calls during the year as against 531 in the preceding year. Of these 80 were false alarms and 15 in respect of fallen buildings and other rescue operations. The number of fires actually attended to was 264 and the loss due to fire was about Rs. 9·45 lakhs.

The number of Municipal schools and classes increased from 330 to 349 and the number of pupils from 56,093 to 61,196, the increase being uniform in all sections Marathi, Gujarathi and Urdu. The advance was attributed to the

comparatively peaceful conditions in the City throughout the year. The proportion of teachers to pupils was 1 to 29. The expenditure amounted to Rs. 31·60 lakhs against Rs. 30·68 lakhs in the preceding year. The average expenditure per pupil was Rs. 48·3 against Rs. 50·9 in the preceding year and was the lowest since 1920–21.

The general health of the City continued to be satisfactory. The outstanding feature of the year was the excess of births over deaths. The actual number of live births recorded 27,204 was the highest since 1866. The rate works out at 23·4 per 1,000 population against 19·5 in the preceding year. The increase is attributed to better registration on account of the payment of the maternity benefits to certain factory workers and also to the growing appreciation on the part of the working classes of the facilities for confinements in the City in preference to those available in their village homes. The number of deaths during the year was 25,105, i.e., 21·6 per 1,000 against 21·2 in the preceding year.

LOCAL BOARD ADMINISTRATION

Every Local Board is presided over by a president who is elected from amongst the non-official members of the board. In addition, a vice-president is also similarly elected. The funds at the disposal of the boards consist chiefly of the local fund cess on Land Revenue, but there are other sources of revenue, such as proceeds of ferries, tolls on Local Fund roads, quarrying fees, etc. The boards have also the power to levy, with the sanction of the Commissioner, such local taxes as a local authority is authorized to impose under section 80A (3) (*a*) of the Government of India Act. In addition, considerable grants are made by Government for education, the improvement of communications, water-supply and village sanitation, and the proper equipment and maintenance of dispensaries.

In 1930–31, Government's contribution to the expenditure of local boards under the more important heads of Education, Medical and Civil Works compared with the total expenditure under the respective heads was as shown below :—

	Government contribution	Total expenditure
	Rs.	Rs.
Education	99,54,268	1,22,35,472
Medical	1,63,105	12,79,098
Civil Works	18,41,440	52,50,584

The greater part of the revenue is usually spent by the District Board on works of general utility to the whole

district, but each taluka board has funds at its disposal to enable it to carry out and maintain works of purely local utility for which it is primarily responsible. At least one-third of the net revenue from the local fund cess and the cess on water rate must be spent on education.

There was no change in the number of District Local Boards (27) and Taluka Local Boards (222), during the year under report. The total membership was 4,329 of whom 3,334 were elected.

The District Local Board, Sholapur, which was under a special constitution, was made an elective body as before during the year.

The aggregate income of the Boards decreased from Rs. 239·81 lakhs to Rs. 209·85 lakhs. The incidence of taxation was highest in Upper Sind Frontier (Re. 0-8-10) and lowest in Nasik (Re. 0-1-6). The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 214·92 lakhs as against Rs. 235·04 lakhs. About Rs. 117½ lakhs were spent on Education, Rs. 12½ lakhs on Medical Relief and Rs. 39½ lakhs on Public Works.

A Government Resolution reviewing the administration of Local Boards for the year 1930–31, remarked as follows :—

"The Civil Disobedience Movement affected the working of the boards in the Northern Division seriously, and in the Central Division, and Southern Division, to a considerable extent. The Sind Boards were not appreciably affected. On the whole the Boards came through the ordeal well.

The revenues of the Boards were also adversely affected by the movement, especially receipts from local fund cess and cattle pounds.

It is, however, very gratifying that several of the serious defects noticed in previous reviews have been remedied and that there is an appreciable improvement in the administration, especially in regard to the maintenance of accounts and the execution of public works. The great need is the exercise of stricter supervision by the executive and the elimination of communal bias and personal animosity from the Boards themselves."

BOMBAY IMPROVEMENT TRUST

The area of developed land permanently leased increased from 21,72 to 22,27 lakhs square yards, but the rental decreased from Rs. 26·7 to Rs. 26·4 lakhs as a result of surrender of costly plots with substantial buildings on them. The area of unleased development land at the close of the year was 15,40 lakhs square yards as against 15,82 lakhs square yards at the close

of the previous year. Completion certificates were granted for 16 new buildings and in addition permission was given for the occupation of 34 buildings.

The balance in favour of the Trust of new tenements provided on their estates including these erected by the Development Department and the several Mill companies, over tenements demolished increased during the year from 15,452 to 15,691.

The average population in the Board's Chawls and semi-permanent camps was 34,628. The average death-rate for all Chawls per 1,000 was 6·38 as against 6·44 in the preceding year. The death-rate in each of the Board's Chawls and camps was only about one-third the rate of the respective Municipal Sections. The total yearly rental of the occupied premises amounted to Rs. 8·49 lakhs or 93·55 per cent. of the total demand, excluding arrears of the previous year. The percentage of outgoings (including loss due to vacancies) to gross revenue in permanent chawls was 52·51. The net annual return on the Chawls worked out to 3·07 per cent., on the outlay. The Board has to pay Rs. 4 lakhs over and above the net income from these chawls as interest and Sinking Fund charges which represents a loss of Rs. 39·71 per room per annum on an average.

The number of plots disposed of was 81 as against 35 in the previous year and their total area and capital value were 86,095 square yards and Rs. 13·82 lakhs, respectively.

The Capital Account stood at Rs. 91·61 lakhs.

The expenditure was Rs. 38·10 lakhs including a deficit of Rs. 33·82 lakhs on the General Account.

Under General Account (Revenue), the net revenue (excluding the receipts from the Municipal contribution of Rs. 23·1 lakhs and expenditure on interest and on Sinking Fund charges) was Rs. 39·5 lakhs. The interest and Sinking Fund charges amounted to Rs. 92·1 lakhs as against Rs. 89·3 lakhs previous year.

In all 549 cases came before the Land Acquisition Officer, of which 510 were disposed of. Awards amounting to Rs. 0·16 lakhs were made for land aggregating 5,577 square yards. 503 cases were withdrawn from acquisition and compensation amounting to Rs. 7,002 was paid in 35 cases. The average rate paid for the land acquired works out to Rs. 12·31 per square yard as against Rs. 11·68 per square yard in the previous year. There was no acquisition by settlement during the year. Several schemes were completed or were under progress during the year. No new scheme was notified during the period.

BOMBAY PORT TRUST

The usual comparisons between estimates and actuals were completely stultified by the world-wide trade depression which, after simmering for the previous eighteen months, culminated in the economic crisis of September 1931. The disastrous effects of that cataclysm are still paralysing international trade, especially so in the case of great agricultural countries like India, whose prosperity is largely dependent on the export demand for their products. In the case of Bombay the dislocation of trade was accentuated by the complexity of the political situation and what the Finance Member recently described as " self-inflicted wounds " in the shape of boycotts and hartals. Another serious menace to the trade of Bombay is the increasing competition of the Kathiawar ports, and in particular the Port of Bhavnagar which, under special treaty rights dating back to 1866, is allowed to retain the Customs revenues on all its dutiable imports, whether for internal consumption or for through consignment to British India. The drastic enhancement of tariffs, forced on the Government of India by the financial situation, gave a great impetus to this competition.

The actual receipts for the year under report amounted to Rs. 232·42 lakhs, a reduction of Rs. 42·52 lakhs on the original budget figure. The actual receipts for the previous year were Rs. 254·98 lakhs. Revenue to the extent of Rs. 150 lakhs was earmarked for payment of capital debt charges, taxes, etc. Due to drastic economy enforced in all departments, the actual expenditure for the year was restricted to Rs. 254·34 lakhs, a reduction of Rs. 20·08 lakhs on the original estimates. In spite of the fall of just on 9 per cent. in receipts, the ratio of working expenses to revenue was only 53·95 per cent. an increase of only 1½ per cent. on the previous year. The capital expenditure amounted to Rs. 10·50 lakhs.

There was a deficit of Rs. 22·69 lakhs under General Account, which was met from the accumulated Revenue Reserve Fund, and a surplus of Rs. 76,640 under Pilotage Account, which was transferred to the Vessels Replacement Fund. The Revenue Reserve Fund stood at Rs. 46·25 lakhs, the actual market value being about Rs. 28½ lakhs. The accumulated Sinking Funds and equated loan repayments amounted to Rs. 615·25 lakhs, while adequate reserves totalling Rs. 59·96 lakhs were set aside for special purposes, such as fire insurance, depreciation and emergency replacements. No capital loan has been raised for the past seven years, a record in the history

of the Trust. The capital balances in hand at the end of the year were over Rs. 10 lakhs.

The cargo handled at the docks and bunders amounted to 5,138,000 tons, a decrease of 722,000 tons as compared with the volume of the previous year. Imports accounted for about 55 per cent. and exports for 45 per cent. of the total tonnage. The percentage decrease in tonnage was 12 per cent. Imports declined by 4·5 per cent. and exports by 20 per cent.

The fumigation of American cotton imported into India through this Port continued throughout the year under review, 161,266 bales being landed and fumigated prior to delivery.

Vessels which entered the docks or were berthed at the Harbour Walls (excluding ferry steamers) totalled 1,866 with an aggregate tonnage of 4,588,577 net register as against 1,970 vessels with a tonnage of 4,773,492 in the preceding year.

The average number of labourers engaged daily in the Docks Hamallage (Labour) Department was 1,958 and the highest number employed on any single day was, 3,203. The total tonnage of goods handled during 1931–32 amounted to 3,030,118 tons, the inclusive labour charges averaging 4·13 annas per ton.

The foreign inward and outward traffic on the Port Trust Railway aggregated 1,305,000 tons against 1,775,000 tons during 1930–31, and the freight earnings collected on traffic amounted to Rs. 191·74 lakhs.

The Maternity Home and Infant Welfare Centre at the Port Trust Dock labourers' quarters at Wadi Bunder was well patronised during the year under report. The Infant Welfare Centre catered for the needs of 1,073 children. Fourteen beds are available at the Maternity Home. The total number of admissions was 629.

The erection of the Indian Sailors' Home on the site donated by the Trustees on Masjid Bunder Siding Road was completed during the year at a cost of about Rs. $2\frac{3}{4}$ lakhs. The Home was opened by His Excellency the Governor on the 16th December. The Home provides much-needed accommodation for Indian Seamen while on shore in Bombay.

KARACHI PORT TRUST

The revenue of the Karachi Port Trust for the year 1931–32 amounted to Rs. 63·67 lakhs as against Rs. 74·53 lakhs in the previous year, while the total expenditure was Rs. 73·46 lakhs as against Rs. 71·69 lakhs, a loss of Rs. 9·79 lakhs.

To round off works previously undertaken, Rs. 2·50 lakhs were borrowed while repayments of loans amounted to Rs. 2 lakhs. The total capital debt was Rs. 4·25 crores.

Imports totalled 711,000 tons as against 912,000 tons, while Exports totalled 915,000 tons as against 916,000 tons.

The number of steamers that entered the port was 887, as against 941, with a total tonnage of 2,229,677, as against 2,410,115. Eight pilgrim ships embarked 6,231 pilgrims and seven ships arrived with 5,307 pilgrims.

ADEN PORT TRUST

The Port of Aden which affords safe accommodation for vessels up to 33 feet draught, is administered by a Board of Trustees constituted under the Aden Port Trust Act of 1888. The Board is composed of eleven members including the Chairman, of whom five at present are officials. The Trustees are appointed by Government for a period of two years. Vacancies during this period are filled by the Resident.

During the year under report the total value of trade again declined, from Rs. 9·17 crores to Rs. 8·21 crores. Both Imports and Exports showed a decline, the former from Rs. 5·46 crores to Rs. 4·97 crores and the latter from Rs. 3·71 crores to Rs. 3·24 crores. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 10·64 lakhs against Rs. 24·61 lakhs in the previous year. Repayment of loans amounted to Rs. 2 lakhs. The balance at the end of the year was Rs. 13·57 lakhs.

The number of vessels, including country-craft and Government vessels, that entered the harbour decreased from 2,754 to 2,661, while their tonnage increased from 6,031,278 to 6,054,336.

KARACHI RENT RESTRICTION ACT, 1929

The Karachi Rent Act was amended during the year under report and by these amendments landlords were required to apply for the Controller's certificate before taking any action against their tenants in law courts either for rent recovery or distraint of goods or ejectment from premises. The Act was extended for another year instead of being allowed to expire on 31st December 1931.

The Rent Controller determined the standard rent of 569 tenements comprising about 142 separate buildings, during the year under report.

Only 15 appeals were preferred to the Rent Committee under Section 6 of the Rent Act, of which eight were upheld and the rest modified.

CHAPTER X

COLLECTION OF REVENUE AND FINANCIAL REVIEW

THE Revenue Administration of the Bombay Presidency is carried on by the following officers working under the orders of Government :—

Four Commissioners, 27 Collectors, one Deputy Commissioner and a varying number of Assistant Collectors. All these officers, with the exception of four holding the position of Collectors, who belong to the Bombay (Provincial) Civil Service, are members of the Covenanted Civil Service. In addition to the officers mentioned above, there are 73 Deputy Collectors. They are divided for purposes of pay into three grades and are generally District Deputy Collectors in charge of revenue sub-divisions of districts, or Huzur Deputy Collectors in charge of district treasuries, or Assistant Commissioners or Personal Assistants to Collectors.

A Collectorate contains on an average ten talukas each of which comprises about one hundred Government villages, that is, villages that are not alienated and the total revenues of which belong to the State. Each village has its regular complement of officers, a large number of whom are hereditary. The officers on whose services Government in the Presidency proper is mainly dependent are the patil, who is the head of the village for both revenue and police purposes ; the talati or kulkarni, who is the clerk and accountant ; the mahar, who is a kind of beadle ; and the watchman. The patil and kulkarni either hold a certain quantity of rent-free land or are remunerated by a cash payment equivalent to a certain percentage on the collections.

The mahar and watchman, in common with other village servants, also hold land on more or less favourable terms as regards assessment, and receive in addition grain and other payments in kind from the villagers. The remaining servants are the carpenter, blacksmith, potter, barber, and others whose services are necessary to the community. A village is for Government or social purposes complete in itself, so its revenue accounts are simple but complete. They are based on the Record of Rights. Every plot of land held by an occupant is separately measured, assessed and entered in the Record in the name of the person or persons in actual possession of it. The land revenue demand is based on this Record which is thus both a Record of Rights as well as of liability.

In charge of each taluka of a Collectorate there is an officer termed MAMLATDAR (or MUKHTIARKAR in Sind).

AN ASSISTANT or DEPUTY COLLECTOR is placed in revenue charge of a sub-division which contains on an average four talukas.

THE COLLECTOR AND DISTRICT MAGISTRATE is in charge of the whole district. Besides superintending the realisation of the land revenue, the duties of administering the collection of excise and other special taxes and of supervising the stamp revenue devolve upon the Collector as executive head of the district.

THE REVENUE COMMISSIONERS, of whom there are three for the Presidency proper and one in Sind, exercise a general superintendence and control over the revenue administration of the districts in their charge.

The annual BUDGET is presented to the Council during February. Previous to its presentation any new items and new schemes which Government propose to include in it are scrutinised by the Finance Committee of the Council. This committee consists at present of 12 elected members, 4 nominated members, the Members of the Executive Council and Ministers, and the Secretary to Government, Finance Department. Its functions are advisory only.

The Budget is divided into voted and non-voted items. All items under the following heads are, under section 72-D (3) of the Government of India Act, non-voted :—

(*i*) contributions payable by the local Government to the Governor-General in Council ;

(*ii*) interest and sinking fund charges on loans ;

(*iii*) expenditure of which the amount is prescribed by or under any law ;

(*iv*) salaries and pensions payable to or to the dependents of—

(*a*) persons appointed by or with the approval of His Majesty or by the Secretary of State in Council ;

(*b*) judges of the High Court of the province ;

(*c*) the Advocate General ;

(*d*) persons appointed before the first day of April, nineteen hundred and twenty-four, by the Governor-General in Council or by a local Government to services or posts classified by rules under this Act as superior services or posts ; and

(*v*) sums payable to any person who is or has been in the civil service of the Crown in India under any order of the

Secretary of State in Council, of the Governor-General in Council, or of a Governor, made upon an appeal made to him in pursuance of rules made under this Act.

For the purposes of this sub-section the expression " salaries and pensions " includes remuneration, allowances, gratuities, any contributions (whether by way of interest or otherwise) out of the revenues of India to any provident fund or family pension fund, and any other payments or emoluments payable to or on account of a person in respect of his office.

All other items are voted. But if the Governor certifies that any demand relating to a reserved subject, which has been either reduced or refused by vote of the Council, is essential to the discharge of his responsibility for that subject, the reduction or refusal of the Council becomes void.

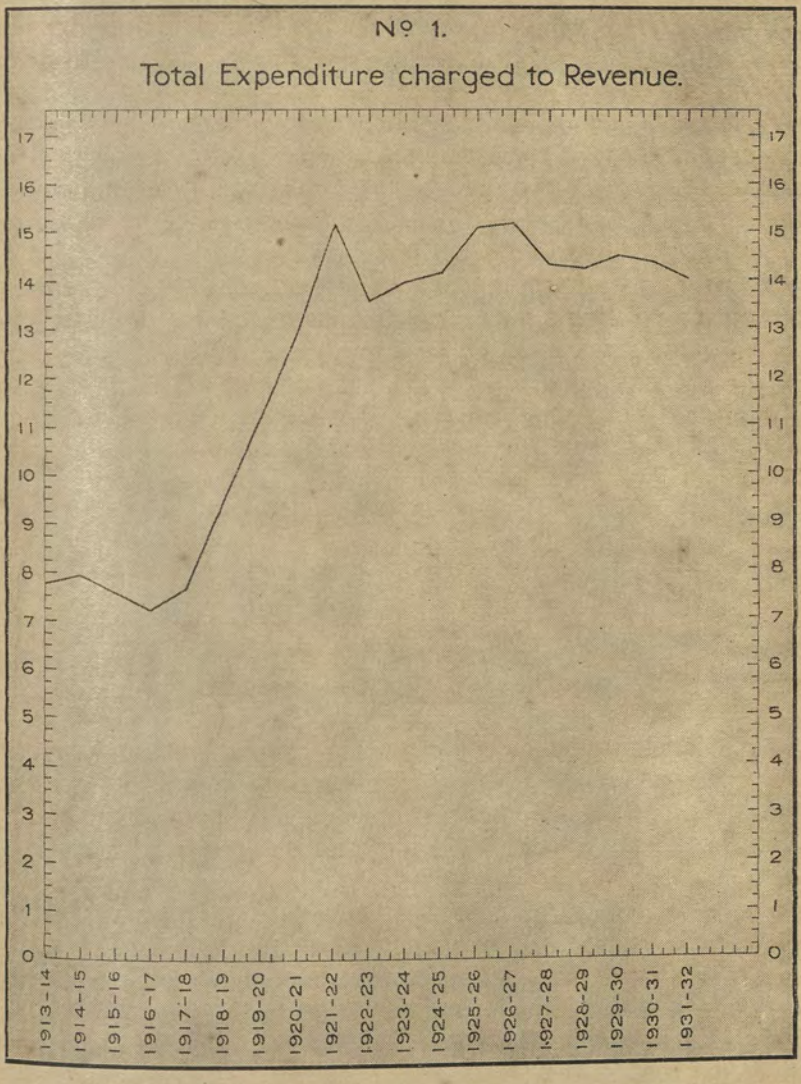
By Rule 33 of the Rules of the Legislative Council a Committee on Public Accounts is constituted to deal with the appropriation accounts of the province and the Report of the Accountant General thereon. The committee consists of 12 members of whom 8 are elected by the non-official members of the Council, and the remainder nominated. The Finance Member is *ex-officio* Chairman.

ACCOUNTS* FOR 1931-32

The year 1931-32 opened with a balance of Rs. 76·51 lakhs of which Rs. 75·33 lakhs was in the Famine Relief Fund. At the end of the year, there was an overdraft of Rs. 32·41 lakhs, which was met by a loan from the Provincial Loans Fund. The closing balance then stood at Rs. 75 lakhs, the statutory minimum balance of the Famine Relief Fund.

Expenditure charged to Revenue was Rs. 15,28,64, while the receipts—revenue section—amounted to Rs. 14,81,85, thus showing a deficit of Rs. 46·79 lakhs in the revenue section of the accounts of 1931-32. The continued fall in prices and the recrudescence of the civil disobedience movement in the last quarter of the year were mainly responsible for this result. Under the chief heads of revenue—land revenue, excise, stamps, forest, registration, scheduled taxes and irrigation—the receipts were a crore less than in 1929-30, although they were about three-fourths of a crore more than in 1930-31 which was affected throughout by the civil disobedience movement. The total receipts under all revenue heads were about Rs. 110 lakhs less than in 1929-30, although they were about 101 lakhs more than in the abnormal year 1930-31. In all Departments expenditure was restricted to items of imperative urgency and

* Corrected up to November 1932. The figures are liable to slight modification.


Nº 1.
Total Expenditure charged to Revenue.
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
1913-14
1914-15
1915-16
1916-17
1917-18
1918-19
1919-20
1920-21
1921-22
1922-23
1923-24
1924-25
1925-26
1926-27
1927-28
1928-29
1929-30
1930-31
1931-32

the cost of establishments was reduced by levying a cut of 10 per cent. in their pay and by retrenching posts wherever possible and, despite additional expenditure under "Police" and "Jails" necessitated by the declaration of a new civil disobedience campaign in the last quarter of the year, the total expenditure under all heads debited to revenue was Rs. 33 lakhs less than in 1930–31 and Rs. 52 lakhs less than in 1929–30. The total disbursement from the Famine Relief Fund amounted to about Rs. 15 lakhs.

Principal Heads of Revenue.—In the year under review the receipts under all principal heads of revenue except "Stamps" showed signs of improvement as compared with the actuals of 1930–31. The receipts from land revenue during the year were Rs. 501 lakhs, i.e. Rs. 26¾ lakhs more than in 1930–31.

The excise revenue realised during the year was Rs. 326½ lakhs, as compared with Rs. 304½ lakhs in 1930–31 and Rs. 408 lakhs in 1929–30. As a result of picketing, the consumption of country liquor decreased from about 14 lakhs proof gallons in 1929–30 to about 10¼ lakhs proof gallons in 1930–31 but in 1931–32 it rose to nearly 11 lakhs proof gallons resulting in some improvement of revenue.

The total receipts under "Stamps" during 1931–32 amounted to Rs. 150¼ lakhs as against Rs. 158 lakhs in 1930–31 and Rs. 177 lakhs in 1929–30. The continued trade depression accounted for this decrease.

The forest revenue for the year amounted to Rs. 56¾ lakhs, as compared with Rs. 52¼ lakhs in 1930–31 and Rs. 79¾ lakhs in 1929–30. Although the receipts for the year showed some improvement as compared with 1930–31, the continued slump in the timber market prevented any substantial recovery.

The receipts from scheduled taxes aggregated Rs. 19·2 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 16·4 lakhs in 1930–31 and Rs. 20·1 lakhs in 1929–30.

The irrigation receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 58·4 lakhs, as against Rs. 33·1 lakhs in 1930–31 in which the revenue had gone down owing to floods in Sind.

The total receipts under "Civil Administration" showed an increase of Rs. 5·7 lakhs. The increase was mainly under "Administration of Justice" (Rs. 2·8 lakhs) and Education (Rs. 1·3 lakhs).

The receipts under "XXX-Civil Works" showed an increase of Rs. 24·8 lakhs on account of increased subsidy from the Petrol Tax Fund for expenditure on road development in the Presidency. On the other hand, the receipts from the Bombay

Development Scheme fell by Rs. 5·3 lakhs mainly owing to a decrease in cotton cess receipts.

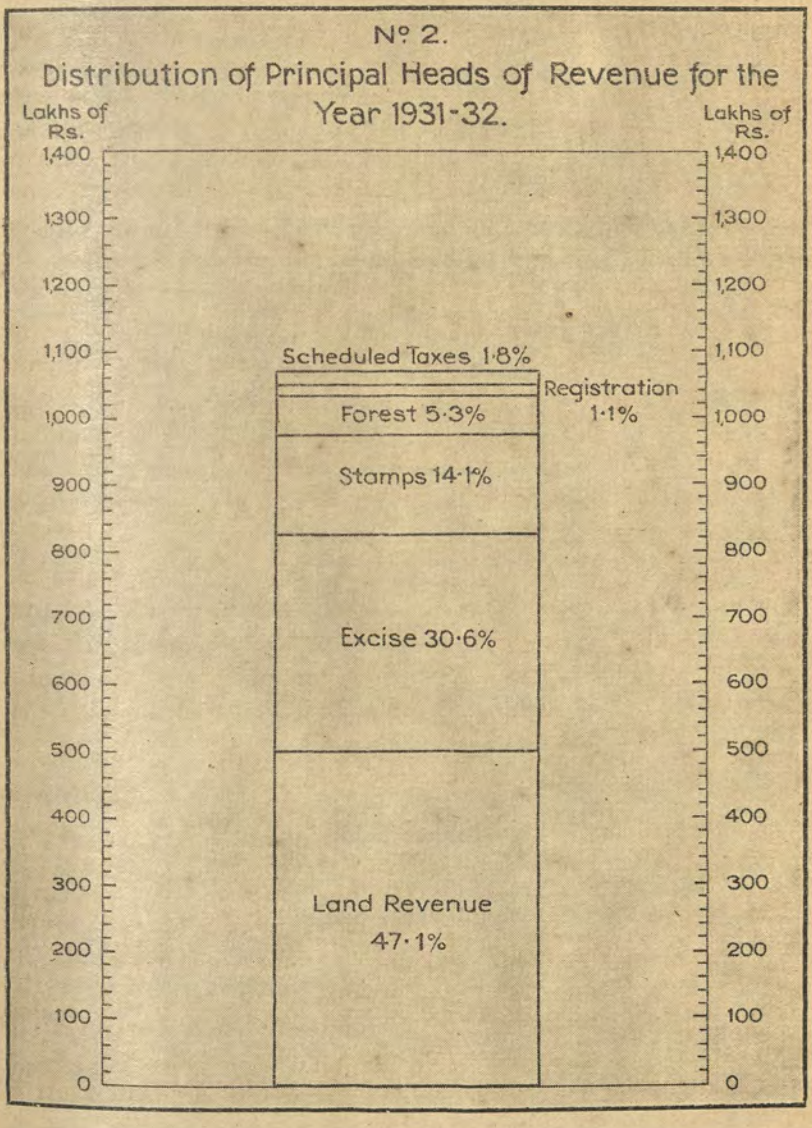
Expenditure.—Under the section "Direct Demands on Revenue", all heads except Land Revenue and Scheduled Taxes showed decreased expenditure as compared with that in the preceding year. The reduction was due to retrenchment and to the emergency cut of 10 per cent. in the pay of establishments. The increase of about Rs. 5 lakhs in the expenditure under Land Revenue was mainly due to excess expenditure of about Rs. 6 lakhs under the Land Records Department on account of the debit to that Department of the recoverable expenditure on survey operations which had hitherto been financed by the Government of India, counter-balanced by savings under "Charges of Administration".

Under "Civil Administration" all important heads with the exception of General Administration and Miscellaneous Departments showed reduction in expenditure, as compared with the actuals of 1930–31, mainly due to retrenchment. The increased expenditure under General Administration was mainly due to the fact that in the previous year adjustment on account of assessment of alienated lands, less quit rents, was made only to the extent of Rs. 89 lakhs and not to the full extent of Rs. 97 lakhs as was done in the year under review. Under "Miscellaneous Departments" the increased expenditure was due to the transfer of the expenditure on account of the Motor Vehicles Department from the head "Police" to this head.

Under the section "Civil Works," the decrease of Rs. 7 lakhs in the expenditure under 41-Civil Works was mainly due to retrenchment. The decrease of Rs. 32½ lakhs under 42-Bombay Development Scheme was due to the discontinuance of the debit of Interest charges amounting to Rs. 35¾ lakhs to this head with effect from the year under review, counter-balanced partly by an increase of about Rs. 3 lakhs in the expenditure under repairs.

The increase of about Rs. 11¼ lakhs under Superannuation Allowances and Pensions was due mainly to an increase of Rs. 4 lakhs under pensions and of Rs. 1 lakh under commutation of pensions and to reduction of about Rs. 5½ lakhs in the cost of pensions transferred to irrigation heads.

The reduction of Rs. 2¼ lakhs under "Miscellaneous" was due to less expenditure under rents, rates and taxes and contributions to local bodies and charitable institutions.


No. 2.
Distribution of Principal Heads of Revenue for the Year 1931-32.
Lakhs of Rs.
Lakhs of Rs.
1,400
1,300
1,200
1,100
1,000
900
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
Scheduled Taxes 1·8%
Registration 1·1%
Forest 5·3%
Stamps 14·1%
Excise 30·6%
Land Revenue 47·1%

Debt Section.—In the year under review Rs. 498·59 lakhs were borrowed from the Government of India for the following purposes :—

	Productive Loan	Unproductive Loan
	(Lakhs of Rupees)	
Lloyd Barrage	308·76	....
Other Irrigation purposes ..	1·09	18·30
Other purposes	2·69	1,06·52
Provincial Loans Account (Post-Reform)	54·28	6·95
	3,66·82	1,31·77

The rate of interest during 1931–32 was 6¼ per cent. on loans taken for productive purposes and 6½ per cent. on loans taken for unproductive purposes.

Statement showing Receipts in 1931–32

(Figures in thousands of Rupees)

Principal Heads of Revenue	1931–32
	Rs.
Salt	17
Land Revenue	5,01,15
Excise	3,26,55
Stamps	1,50,28
Forest	56,74
Registration	11,36
Scheduled Taxes	19,19
Total ..	10,65,44
Irrigation, etc.	
Irrigation	58,39
Debt Services	
Interest	1,44,87
Civil Administration	
Administration of Justice	20,20
Jails and Convict Settlements	4,42
Police	8,33
Education	16,59
Medical	13,96
Public Health	12,93
Agriculture	3,63
Industries	4
Miscellaneous Departments	15,39
Total ..	95,49

(Figures in thousands of Rupees)

Principal Heads of Revenue	1931-32
Civil Works	
	Rs.
Civil Works	48,31
Bombay Development Scheme	24,22
Total ..	72,53
Miscellaneous	
Transfers from Famine Relief Fund	14,68
Receipts in aid of Superannuation	13,01
Stationery and Printing	3,06
Miscellaneous	4,69
Total ..	35,44
Extraordinary Receipts	9,60
Revenue in England	9
Total, Revenue Section ..	14,81,85
Debt Heads	
Famine Relief Fund	14,36
Depreciation Fund—Government Presses ..	45
Appropriation for Reduction or Avoidance of Debt..	26,26
Suspense Account	1,74,53
Civil Deposits (Provincial)	55
Loans and Advances by Provincial Government ..	75,02
Advances from Provincial Loans Fund and Government of India	4,98,59
Subvention from Central Road Development Fund	12,10
Total, Debt Heads ..	8,01,86
Total Receipts, 1931–32 ..	22,83,73
Opening Balance, 1931–32 ..	76,51
Grand Total, 1931–32 ..	23,60,24

No. 3.
0
20
40
60
80
100
120
140
160
180
200
220
240
General Administration.
Education.
Police.
Civil Works.
Irrigation.
Superannuation
Justice.
Land Revenue.
Medical.
Forest.
Excise.
Agriculture.
Public Health.
Jails.
Stationery.
Distribution of Principal Heads of Expenditure for the Year 1931-32.

Statement showing Expenditure in 1931–32.

(Figures in thousands of Rupees)

Direct Demands on Revenue	1931-32 Rs.
Land Revenue	69,86
Excise	39,62
Stamps	2,34
Forest	40,07
Forest Capital Outlay	58
Registration	6,29
Scheduled Taxes	31
Total ..	1,59,07
Irrigation Revenue Account and Capital Account charged to Revenue	
Irrigation	86,04
Debt Services	
Interest	2,11,45
Interest on other Obligations	3,17
Reduction or Avoidance of Debt	15,33
Total ..	2,29,95
Civil Administration	
General Administration	2,26,01
Administration of Justice	70,56
Jails and Convict Settlements	22,10
Police	1,81,50
Ports and Pilotage	10
Scientific Departments	94
Education	1,94,09
Medical	50,75
Public Health	24,08
Agriculture	28,87
Industries	1,22
Miscellaneous Departments	5,00
Total ..	8,05,22
Civil Works	
Civil Works	1,04,21
Bombay Development Scheme	9,42
Total ..	1,13,63

BOMBAY, 1931-32

(Figures in thousands of Rupees)

Direct Demands on Revenue	1931-32
Miscellaneous	
	Rs.
Famine Relief	11
Superannuation allowances and pensions ..	72,48
Stationery and Printing	12,96
Miscellaneous	8,31
Total ..	93,86
Extraordinary charges	3
Expenditure in England	40,84
Total Expenditure charged to Revenue, 1931–32	15,28,64
Capital Account not charged to Revenue	
Construction of Irrigation Works	3,62,08
Capital Outlay on Improvement of Public Health ..	4,22
Bombay Development Scheme	11
Capital Outlay on Civil Works	4,72
Other Provincial Expenditure not charged to Revenue	....
Payment of Commuted Value of Pensions ..	8,10
Total, Capital Account not charged to Revenue, 1931–32	3,79,23
Debt Heads	
Miscellaneous Government Account	4,17
Famine Relief Fund	14,69
Transfers from Famine Relief Fund	6,21
Deposits of Depreciation Fund of Government Presses	10
Appropriation for Reduction or Avoidance of Debt	12
Sinking Fund Investment Account	16,00
Suspense	1,74,11
Loans and Advances by Provincial Government ..	52,77
Advances from Provincial Loans Fund ..	81,01
Subventions from Central Road Development Fund	28,19
Total, Debt Heads ..	3,77,37
Total Disbursements ..	22,85,24
Closing Balance ..	75,00
Grand Total ..	23,60,24

LAND REVENUE

—	Demand	Collections	Suspensions	Remissions.
	Lakhs	Lakhs	Lakhs	Lakhs
Northern Division	144·62	117·33	21·54	4·82
Central Division	184·93	170·85	12·13	1·33
Southern Division	124·77	103·62	19·23	1·74
Sind	106·91	98·80	4·79	9·24*
Bombay Suburban District	3·51	2·24	·72†	....
Bombay Collectorate	7·00	6·78	....	....

* This figure excludes special remissions of Rs. 10·37 lakhs granted on account of continued abnormal fall in prices.
† This figure includes remissions also.

PUBLIC WORKS REVENUE

The Public Works Department revenue falls under the three heads noted below :—

(1) XXX-Civil Works—Central.
(2) XXX-Civil Works—Provincial.
(3) XXXVIII-Military Engineer Services.

The revenue under (1) and (2) above, which consists of rents of buildings, rents of electric installations, rents of water supply and sanitary installations, ferry receipts, tolls on roads etc., amounted to about Rs. 2¾ lakhs and Rs. 48¼ lakhs respectively as against Rs. 2½ lakhs and Rs. 23½ lakhs during the previous year.

The revenue under (3) above, which consists of payments for miscellaneous items amounted to about Rs. 25,000 as against Rs. 6,197 during the previous year.

EXCISE

BOMBAY PRESIDENCY PROPER

The gross excise revenue for the year under report increased from Rs. 2·64 crores to Rs. 2·96 crores mainly under the heads of country spirit and toddy. The increase was also due to a partial recovery from the heavy decrease of Rs. 94 lakhs in the previous year. Hemp drugs and commercial spirits also contributed to the increase.

The rations fixed for 1931-32 were the same as those for 1930-31. The total consumption of country spirit increased by 69,833 proof gallons to 10,35,686 proof gallons, but fell by 7,29,745 proof gallons below the allotted rations. The main reason for the increase in the consumption was the relaxation

of picketing and other Congress activities and the readjustment of economic conditions generally to the change in the level of prices. A substantial increase was observed in Bombay, Ahmedabad and Poona Cities while a considerable decrease was observed in Dharwar, which was due to substitution of toddy for liquor. As usual the policy of discouraging the consumption of stronger spirit by restricting a certain number of shops in each district to the exclusive sale of weak spirit was continued in places where such a policy had proved successful. But in certain areas where it was found that such a restriction had driven people to stronger spirit illicitly distilled or imported, it was found necessary to remove the restriction and allow the sale of stronger spirit at the shops.

The revenue under 'toddy' amounted to Rs. 43·64 lakhs in the year under report as compared with Rs. 31·55 lakhs in the previous year. The increase in the consumption was partly due to relaxation of the political agitation and restoration of a calmer atmosphere and partly to the fixing of lower selling prices by agreement among the licensees to meet conditions arising from the general fall in prices and wages.

The revenue under 'foreign liquors' showed an increase of about a lakh due to the inclusion for the first time of the duty recovered at the Resident's Treasury at Baroda on foreign liquors imported by the Alembic Chemical Works Company of Baroda. There was, however, a decrease of about 62,000 bulk gallons in the consumption of potable foreign liquors which was due to high selling prices consequent on the enhancement in the rates of both Excise and Customs duties, and partly due to picketing and to the greater use of masala liquor on economic grounds.

The revenue from intoxicating drugs during the year under report amounted to Rs. 16·93 lakhs as against 14·89 lakhs during the previous year. The decrease in the consumption of ganja from 22,000 seers to 19,000 seers was mainly due to the re-introduction of the sale of charas in the Town and Island of Bombay and Ahmedabad City with effect from 1st April 1931 and high selling rates and general depression in trade.

The excise opium revenue was Rs. 23·94 lakhs against Rs. 24·99 lakhs in the previous year. The decrease in the sales is attributed to trade depression, poor economic condition of the people, and high selling prices. The net profit to Government from the issue of opium however increased from Rs. 10·14 lakhs (inclusive of duty) in the previous year to Rs. 10·54 lakhs in the year under report.

An important feature of the year's administration was the re-introduction with effect from 1st April 1931, of the sale of charas in Bombay and Ahmedabad Cities after a prohibition which had extended over a period of nine years, resulting in an increase of revenue of nearly Rs. 2 lakhs and an almost total disappearance of cases of illicit sales, only 27 as compared with 597 in the previous year.

The total number of offences against the Abkari Law detected was 8,208 against 6,583 in the preceding year. Of these, 7,691 related to liquor, 452 to hemp drugs and 65 to cocaine. The number of opium cases detected was 382 as against 282 in the preceding year.

On account of the relaxation of the Civil Disobedience Movement, the excise staff could devote greater time to detection work. The high price of country spirit was responsible for the growth of illicit distillation even in urban areas while the re-introduction of charas in Bombay City and Ahmedabad accounted for a sudden fall in the number of hemp drugs cases. The rounding up of the notorious illicit cocaine traffickers in Calcutta had a restrictive effect on the illicit traffic in Bombay and the number of cocaine offences therefore showed a decrease.

The net expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 22·66 lakhs as against Rs. 25·44 lakhs in the previous year. The net revenue increased by Rs. 34·64 lakhs to Rs. 274·29 lakhs in the year under report.

SIND

During the year under report, the total excise revenue of Sind, excluding refunds, amounted to Rs. 29·94 lakhs as against Rs. 27·51 lakhs in the previous year. Country spirit, toddy and hemp drugs were mainly responsible for the increase.

There was an all round decrease in the imports of foreign liquors, during the year under report, due to the high import duty and the reduced purchasing power of the consumer. Imports of fermented liquors and potable spirits decreased from 8·74 lakhs gallons and 1·94 lakhs gallons to 6·70 lakhs gallons and 1·02 lakhs gallons respectively. The total consumption also decreased from 3·37 lakhs gallons to 2·93 lakhs gallons, due to the increase in tariff duties, excise taxation and poor economic conditions.

The consumption of country spirit was 72,221 proof gallons as against 66,848 proof gallons in the preceding year, and was due to the cessation of picketing by Congress volunteers and the

diversion of custom from foreign liquor to country liquor owing to the high price of the former. The issues from warehouses amounted to 73,536 proof gallons, an increase of 7,424 proof gallons over the figures for the preceding year.

The sales of toddy amounted to 20,973 gallons as against 17,053 gallons due to the absence of picketing of toddy shops.

The issues of opium from Government depots amounted to 4,219 seers as compared with 4,673 seers in the previous year. The sales of bhang and charas amounted to 60,591 seers and 6,884 seers respectively.

The total number of offences detected during the year under report was 422 under the Abkari Act and 105 under the opium laws.

The total expenditure of the excise department in Sind amounted to Rs. 2·79 lakhs as against Rs. 3·12 lakhs in the preceding year.

CHAPTER XI

INSTRUCTION

THE control of Public Instruction of all kinds is exercised by Government chiefly through the Director of Public Instruction. In the case of Art and Industrial and Technical Education, the control is however exercised through the Director, Sir J. J. School of Art, and the Director of Industries, respectively. Questions relating to Higher Education are dealt with directly by Government through the University. The five Divisional Inspectors are directly responsible to the Director of Public Instruction for the general management of all Secondary and Primary schools in their Divisions. The general control of Technical and Industrial education lies with a Committee of Direction composed of officials and non-officials.

The University alone has the power of conferring degrees recognised by Government. It also provides facilities for post-graduate teaching. Affiliated to the University are the Colleges, which prepare students for the University examinations.

The Royal Institute of Science, Bombay, opened in 1920, provides facilities for post-graduate research work in Science in addition to the ordinary degree courses in Science.

Below the Colleges come the *High Schools*, usually at least one, either Government or aided, at the headquarter town of each district. These prepare students for the Matriculation Examination which is now controlled directly by the University.

Side by side with the High Schools there are the *Middle Schools* which teach the first few standards only of the secondary school course of seven standards. There are also in some places separate high and middle schools for girls.

Below the secondary schools are a large number of *Primary Schools* both for boys and girls in which instruction is given in the vernacular to the vast mass of the people.

There are also institutions for the training of teachers for both secondary and primary schools maintained by Government, viz. the Secondary Training College, Bombay, and the Vernacular Training Colleges for men and women at Ahmedabad, Poona, Dhulia (for men only), Dharwar and

Hyderabad. A certain number of district training schools have also been opened.

For technical and industrial education, there are the Sir J. J. School of Art, Bombay, and the Reay Art Workshops attached to it, the V. J. Technical Institute, Bombay, which is now recognised as the central technological institution, for the Presidency, the Workshop classes of the College of Engineering, Poona, the Diploma classes attached to the N. E. D. Civil Engineering College, Karachi, and a number of technical and industrial schools, notably the Ranchhodlal Chhotalal Technical Institute, Ahmedabad, the Parekh School of Art, Surat, the Sir D. M. Petit Industrial School, Ahmednagar, the School of Industry at Ratnagiri and the V. J. Technical Institute, Sukkur.

For the proper selection of text-books for use in secondary and primary schools there are six special committees; one, known as the Provincial School Book Committee, for the consideration of books for use in secondary schools, and five Vernacular School Book Committees for the consideration of books in Marathi, Gujarati, Kanarese, Sindhi, and Urdu.

EDUCATION

[The figures in the summary relate to institutions in the British Districts only.]

Institutions and Pupils.—The total number of educational institutions decreased by 53 to 17,159, but the number of pupils in them increased by 45,447 to 1,332,693.

Out of a total of 26,813 towns and villages, 10,831 possessed schools, the average area served by each town or village with a school being 11·4 square miles. The percentage of male scholars under instruction in all kinds of institutions to the total male population was 9·07 as against 9·96 in the preceding year, the corresponding percentages of female scholars to the female population being 2·83 and 3·00 respectively.

The total number of pupils under instruction in recognised institutions increased by 45,624 to 1,298,623. Of these, 967,737 were Hindus, 235,469 Muhammadans, 37,937 Indian Christians, 17,863 Parsis, 5,398 Europeans and Anglo-Indians. The rest comprised 29,735 Jains, 1,360 Sikhs, and 3,124 Jews and others.

Expenditure.—Direct expenditure on Public Instruction fell by less than Rs. ½ lakh to Rs. 352·3 lakhs, and indirect expenditure by about Rs. 2·4 lakhs to Rs. 47·0 lakhs. The total

expenditure on Public Instruction which amounted to Rs. 3,99,27,898, was met from the following sources :—

	Amount	Percentage
	Rs.	
Government funds	1,89,57,368	47·5
Board funds	77,75,993	19·5
Fees	81,01,467	20·3
Other Sources	50,93,070	12·7
Total ..	3,99,27,898	100

Primary schools absorbed over Rs. 205 lakhs exclusive of expenditure on inspection, construction, and repairs. Expenditure on buildings and apparatus in recognised institutions amounted to Rs. 9·6 lakhs.

University.—The number of candidates for the Matriculation examination increased by 1,274 to 11,969, of whom 37·3 per cent. passed. Of the 1,585 candidates who appeared for the Intermediate examination in Arts, 60·4 per cent. passed. The number of successful candidates at the B.A. examination held in October 1931 and April 1932 was 734 as against 676 in the preceding year. In examinations for Professional degrees, excluding the Medical examinations, there were 711 successful candidates. The expenditure of the University, as distinct from the individual colleges and the School of Economics and Sociology maintained by the University itself, was over Rs. 8 lakhs.

Arts Colleges.—The number of students in the 16 Arts Colleges (including the University School of Economics and Sociology) increased by 2,117 to 9,313, of whom 704 were women as against 534 in the preceding year. The total expenditure on all the Arts Colleges (excluding the University School) was about Rs. 20½ lakhs.

Professional Colleges.—The total number of students in Professional colleges increased by 287 to 3,073, of whom 1,339 were reading Law, 793 Medicine, 321 Engineering, 231 Agriculture, 314 Commerce, and 75 were reading for the B.T. degree.

Education in Art.—There were 657 students in the Sir J. J. School of Art, Bombay, of whom 225 attended the Reay Art Workshops. The School of Drawing and Design at Ahmedabad had 26 students and that at Surat 60.

Technical and Industrial Education.—The number of these schools increased by 2 to 44, and the pupils in them by 360 to 2,895. The expenditure, however, decreased by Rs. 26,711 to Rs. 4,96,482.

Secondary Schools.—Secondary schools increased by 35 to 689 and the number of pupils in them by 5,449 to 123,578. The following table gives separate details for High and Middle Schools :—

		Number of Schools	Number of Pupils
High Schools for	Boys ..	221	81,358
	Girls ..	60	14,449
Middle Schools for	Boys ..	368	24,404
	Girls ..	40	3,367
	Total ..	689	123,578

The expenditure on Secondary schools increased by about Rs. 1 lakh to over Rs. 85½ lakhs.

Primary Schools.—The number of Primary schools for boys decreased by 61 to 13,095, but the number of pupils in them increased by 33,482 to 974,729. The number of Primary schools for girls, however, increased by 11 to 1,732, and the number of pupils (boys and girls) in them by 4,698 to 169,079. The total number of girls under instruction in Primary schools for boys and girls was 262,325, an increase of 14,993. The following table gives details of Primary schools by Management :—

	Schools	Pupils
Government	34	4,441
District Local Board	10,284	671,779
Municipal	1,704	308,222
Aided	2,626	152,454
Unaided	179	6,912
Total ..	14,827	1,143,808

There were 194 Night schools attended by 7,405 pupils.

The total expenditure on Primary education increased from Rs. 204·3 lakhs to Rs. 205·1 lakhs, of which Rs. 118·2 lakhs was met from Government funds, Rs. 17·3 lakhs from District Local Board funds, Rs. 47·4 lakhs from Municipal funds, Rs. 5·2 lakhs from fees, and Rs. 17·0 lakhs from other sources.

Training Institutions.—There were 12 Training institutions for men and 21 for women with 711 and 803 students respectively. Of the 33 Training institutions, 16, with 848 students, were under public management, and 17, with 666 students, under private management.

Muhammadans.—The total number of Muhammadans under instruction in recognised institutions increased by 9,537 to 235,469 of whom 53,242 were girls. The number of Muhammadans in Arts colleges increased by 103 to 583 and that in Professional colleges by 42 to 208. In Secondary schools the number increased by 475 to 12,303, in Primary schools by 9,384 to 218,253, but in special schools the number declined by 431 to 4,152.

Intermediate and Backward Hindus.—The following table gives the number of pupils under instruction in recognised institutions :—

	1931-32	1930-31
Intermediate		
Marathas	157,928	150,449
Cultivating classes (Kunbis, Kolis, etc.) ..	197,784	196,262
Artisans	91,742	84,344
Lingayats	80,974	80,674
Total ..	528,428	511,729
Backward		
Depressed classes	69,186	65,678
Aboriginal and Hill Tribes	24,173	21,498
Others	42,410	40,184
Total ..	135,769	127,360

Reformatory Schools.—Of the three Reformatory schools in this Presidency, the one at Yeravda (Poona), with 183 pupils, is maintained by Government, while the David Sassoon Reformatory, Bombay, with 358 pupils, is under the control of a Committee of Management, and the Willingdon Boys' Home, Bombay, with 77 pupils, is maintained by the Salvation Army Mission.

EDUCATION—ADEN

The Aden schools are under the supervision of an Indian Deputy Educational Inspector.

Indigenous Schools.—There are thirteen aided and recognised schools, six for boys and seven for girls, with 339 pupils. These schools are primitive institutions which concentrate mainly on reading the Koran.

Primary Schools.—There are three Government Primary (Arabic) schools and seven Government Aided schools (five for boys and two for girls) with 1,082 pupils. During the year under review curricula for religious education and hand and eye training were introduced in the Government schools. The aided schools have also introduced instruction in handicraft.

Secondary Schools.—The Government Anglo-Vernacular School at the Crater teaches six standards of which the sixth prepares scholars for the Junior Cambridge Local Examination. The number of boys in the school was 139. A night commercial class was opened in February 1932. A drill master was engaged in January 1932 and a gymnasium was instituted for the use of the Government Anglo-Vernacular and Primary schools. Cricket was introduced in the Secondary schools.

There are three aided Anglo-Vernacular schools and five other English-teaching schools (two for boys and three for girls) including one Orphanage. The number of boys in these schools was 450. The English-teaching schools are conducted by the Roman Catholic Franciscan Mission mainly for the benefit of Anglo-Indian children. An improved syllabus for these schools was introduced during the year.

Four students passed the Junior Cambridge Examination during the year. Of these three were from the Government Anglo-Vernacular School, and one (a Parsee girl) from the Convent School, Tawahi.

In spite of the large number of schools in Aden in proportion to the population, education is still backward and unsatisfactory.

YERAVDA REFORMATORY

At the end of the year under report, there were 202 boys in the Reformatory School as against 190 in the previous year; their ages, on admission, ranging from 9 to 15 years. Of these 59 were Muslims, 19 Brahmins, 25 Backward Classes, 4 Christians, 4 Lingayats; 1 Jain and 90 other Hindus.

There were 4 offences during the year involving 17 boys as against 4 offences involving 8 boys last year. Only two boys escaped as compared with 7 escapes during the previous year. The general behaviour of the juveniles in the school was satisfactory. The number of boys discharged was 64. The health of the inmates was satisfactory.

Regular moral instruction was imparted to the boys once a week by class teachers and the importance of good moral behaviour was brought home to their minds. Full freedom was allowed to the boys consistent with discipline, and every attempt was made to create an *esprit-de-corps*.

The year under report was a period of general depression in trade, and a considerable difficulty was experienced in securing a sufficient number of orders from the public for the various industrial classes of the school.

Deducting actual receipts of Rs. 1,948, the net cost to Government amounted to Rs. 46,210. The net average cost per boy during the year was Rs. 252-8-3.

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

The total number of books registered during the year decreased by 110 to 2,328. Of the books published, 720 were in Marathi, 545 in Gujarati, 252 in Sindhi, 222 in English, 97 in Kanarese, 80 in Urdu, 62 each in Hindi and classical languages, 2 in Punjabi, 1 each in Burmese, Tamil, Telugu, Bengali and Spanish, 18 in other Dialects and 263 in more than one languages.

Of the total number of publications the "Miscellaneous" works numbered 500 while "Poetry" and "Religion" numbered 391 and 340 respectively.

NEWSPAPERS

At the end of the year 1931, there were in all 290 newspapers treating of current political topics as against 263 in 1930—a net increase of 27 publications.

Out of these 290 newspapers, 90 were published in the City of Bombay, 49 in the Northern Division, 48 in the Central Division, 40 in the Southern Division, 62 in Sind, and 1 in an Indian State. Eighty-seven or 30 per cent. were in the hands of Brahmins, 124 or about 43 per cent. were conducted by other Hindus, 13 by Jains, 8 by Parsis, 45 or about 15 per cent. by Muhammadans and 13 by Christians, of whom two were Europeans.

Eighteen were published in English, 76 in Marathi, 71 in Gujarati, 6 in Hindi, 24 in Kanarese, 14 in Urdu, 49 in Sindhi, 1 in Konkani and the remaining 31 were bi-lingual or tri-lingual newspapers.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY, BOMBAY

The year 1931 was one of considerable anxiety financially. The long drawn-out trade depression naturally affected membership, both as regards resignations and a falling off in the number of new members. The total number of resident and non-resident members was 423 and 160 respectively.

The issue of books and periodicals during the year amounted to 66,646 of which 14,528 were new books, 29,488 periodicals and 22, 630 old books. The largest issue, viz. 18,628 books, was under fiction, politics and biography coming next in order. The total number of volumes added was 1,609 of which 1,123 were purchased and 486 presented. One hundred and three

coins were added to the Coin Cabinet of the Society. Besides, the Society received 571 treasure trove coins during the year. The total expenditure of the Society amounted to about Rs. 30,000.

VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM, BOMBAY

The Museum was kept open to the public for 314 days during the year under report as against 313 in the previous year. The number of visitors was 962,029, showing a daily average of 3,068 as against a total attendance of 877,313 and a daily average of 2,803 in the preceding year. The improvement in attendance was due to the increased popularity of the Museum. Important addition such as imitation models of 14 historic diamonds were made during the year.

PRINCE OF WALES MUSEUM OF WESTERN INDIA, BOMBAY

The number of visitors to the Museum averaged 1,500 a day, during the year under report. The usual work of classifying, arranging and labelling exhibits was proceeded with. Some of the staff were sent on study tours and scientific expeditions, and articles and papers on the various subjects prepared by the Sections were published. A special counter with a revolving screen was installed during the year to enable visitors to see the display of illustrated guides, catalogues, pictures, postcards, etc.

Art Section.—Some forty-one pieces, comprising old china, pottery, porcelain, etc., and a set of 35 volumes of the Encyclopædia Britannica were received as a gift. Many other gifts of interesting exhibits from various donors were also received and exhibited. Two large oil paintings entitled "Venus" and "Danae" offered on loan to the Museum by Mr. J. E. Saklatwalla were exhibited temporarily.

Archæological Section.—A fresh lot of photographs of sculptures and images from the caves of Badami and Elephanta were exhibited in the Brahmanical Gallery. The Gandhar sculptures recently brought from Peshawar were all classified and specially exhibited with labels in an improvised gallery and an illustrated article on them was simultaneously published for the information of the general public. A number of additional exhibits, including an Egyptian jar, a Persian vase, Burmese Votive plaques and Negapatam bronzes were also exhibited in their respective galleries. Special attention was devoted to the exhibition of non-Muhammadan coins up to the mediaeval Indo-Sasanian period, the Mughal coins of Akbar and Jehangir and those of the Sultans of Gujarat and Malwa. A rich collection of silver and copper coins collected by

Prof. Hodiwala, mainly for research work, was purchased for the Museum. Inscriptions on two sets of copper-plate recording the grants of Rashtrakula King Govind I of the Gujarat branch and of Chalukya King Chamunda were deciphered.

Natural History Section.—During the year an Ornithological Survey of the Hyderabad State was undertaken where in all 484 birds were collected. Practically no material from this area is available in any Museum collection. The geographical position of the State in the centre of the peninsula region makes it a meeting ground of western and eastern forms of animal life. Among other important acquisitions to the collection were 240 birds collected by Mr. Henricks in the Survey of the Prome District, Burma, and 12 Pheasant skins of various species collected in the Chin and Kachin Hills, Burma. Three new castes illustrating the Fasciolated Rat Snake, the Green Whip Snake and the Brown Snake were also added to the exhibited series. Among the contributions to the Fish Gallery was a collection of 47 fishes made by Dr. H. C. Mueller at Bandra and two small collections made by Col. R. W. Burton at Bhahwani River, S. India, and R. C. Morris in the stream of the Billigirirangan Hills. The case illustrating the Life History of the Bee Hole Borer of Teak showing examples of the trunk and the foliage and fruit of the tree was completed and placed on exhibition.

VICTORIA MUSEUM, KARACHI

The total number of visitors to the Museum during the year under review was over two lakhs, the daily average attendance being 630. All Fridays were as usual reserved for the Purdah Nishin ladies.

A large number of new exhibits were added during the year under report. Different kinds of interesting models and specimens of Zoology, Geology, Ethnology, Palaeontology, Biology, etc., were purchased from Germany and America and exhibited in showcases. The most interesting among them were the models of 25 famous diamonds of the world; a set of extinct animals and birds; and rare specimen of the Duck Bill of Australia.

CHAPTER XII

MISCELLANEOUS

ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION

THE Church Establishments maintained by the State in the Presidency are those of the Established Church of England and the Established Church of Scotland. Certain allowances are also granted by Government to the Roman Catholic Church and the Wesleyan Church for ministrations to troops, etc.

THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Since 1837 Bombay has been a separate Diocese.

The Diocese includes the territories within the limits of the Presidency of Bombay excepting Sind, which was transferred to the Diocese of Lahore in 1877.

The Right Reverend R. D. Acland, M.A., Bishop of Bombay, was on duty throughout the year. The Venerable H. Martindale, M.A., Archdeacon, was on duty up to the 2nd June 1931 when he proceeded on six months' leave out of India. During his absence, the Reverend Cannon J. L. C. Dart, M.A., acted as Archdeacon. The Venerable H. Martindale on return from leave remained on duty as Archdeacon for the remainder of the year. The Reverend F. Cowburn, B.A., held the post of Domestic Chaplain up to the 2nd December 1931 when he was relieved by the Archdeacon who held that post in addition to his own duties for the remainder of the year.

The year opened with 14 Chaplains on duty and four on leave. Two retired during the year.

The Bishop held 34 Confirmations during the year. The number of persons confirmed was 373.

THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

The Church of Scotland in this Presidency was placed on its present basis in 1837 and the sanctioned number of Chaplains on the Bombay cadre of the Indian Ecclesiastical Establishment, Church of Scotland, is five.

There are at present five Presbyterian Churches and several other buildings used for Divine service scattered throughout the Presidency of Bombay.

The Reverend D. F. Mackenzie continued as Officiating Presidency Senior Chaplain throughout the year.

The other places outside Bombay, where Government or non-Government Chaplains were stationed were Poona and Kirkee, Karachi, Quetta, Belgaum, Aden, Mhow, Nasirabad and Rajkot.

STATIONERY

During the year under report, the closing balance of the Stationery Branch amounted to Rs. 2·13 lakhs as against Rs. 2·54 lakhs in the preceding year. The total cost of the issues amounted to Rs. 7·77 lakhs as against Rs. 8·32 lakhs in the preceding year, the reduction being due to the close scrutiny of demands.

Publication Branch.—The total receipts during the year under report amounted to about Rs. 88,000 as against Rs. 71,000 in the previous year. The value of maps issued was Rs. 2,842. The increase in the sale of publications was due to the demand for the new edition of the P. W. D. Handbook.

Government Central Press, Bombay.—The Litho section of the Press ceased to exist from the year under report, as experience showed that the work could be expeditiously done at the Photozinco Office, Poona. The Multigraph section was also abolished to effect retrenchment. There was a marked decrease against all items of outturn except Perforating, Hand-sewing, Casting-in, Gilding, Envelope-making, Embossing, and Miscellaneous Productive Time and Rubber Stamps where a slight increase was noticeable. The decrease in outturn was due to less work demanded from this department, which, in its turn, was probably due to the present financial situation. The rates per unit also went up against all items except in respect of Lino Composition, Multigraph Operating and Printing and Rubber Stamps. The outturn for the year compared with the previous year at 14 per cent. less and the working cost 10 per cent. less.

There was a general fall in the sale proceeds of Press manufacture from Rs. 1·18 lakhs to Rs. ·65 lakhs. The total expenditure of the Press amounted to Rs. 7·63 lakhs.

Yeravda Prison Press.—The labour supply, both paid and convict, was steady throughout the year. The sanctioned strength of the paid establishment was 50 excluding two compositors for the Poona Season. The actual working strength was 45, and the daily average of convicts employed was 149. The total receipts of the Press for the year 1931–32 amounted to Rs. 81,650 as against Rs. 1·14 lakhs in the previous year. The considerable fall in the receipts was due to the revision of the sale prices of the standard forms, the discontinuance of

the supply of certain stationery articles to bodies financially independent of Government and the reduced demands from local bodies. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 2·42 lakhs.

Commissioner in Sind's Press, Karachi.—The outturn under Composing, Machines, and Presses and all sub-sections in the Binding Section excepting Paging, Folding, Collating, Hand-sewing and Casing-in showed a decrease. This was due to the receipt of less work from the indenting officers. The total recoveries during the year on account of chargeable work including work of the Central Government amounted to Rs. 20,787 as against Rs. 29,000 of the previous year. The total expenditure of the Press amounted to Rs. 1·36 lakhs.

Government Photozinco Press, Poona.—The work turned out in the printing branch during the financial year was 1,255,955 machine pulls costing about Rs. 39,000 and 76,426 hand pulls costing about Rs. 22,000. Other branches turned out work costing Rs. 82,000. The total cost of work done in this press was thus Rs. 1·44 lakhs.

BOMBAY DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES

Back Bay Reclamation Scheme.—About 18 acres of the recreation ground in block No. 1 were turfed and grassed. The work of dry filling in block No. 2 was completed and 59,235 tons of murum were spread departmentally at a cost of Rs. 11,587. The construction of the parapet wall along the sea wall in blocks Nos. 1 and 2 was completed to a total length of 6,308 Rft. at a cost of Rs. 1,43,958. The work of providing steps on the New Sea Wall for providing access to the sea for Hindu mourners was also completed.

The total realisations from the disposal of surplus stores and plant amounted to Rs. 1,32,753.

Water Supply Schemes.—The Salsette and Ambernath Water Supply Schemes which were in charge of the Executive Engineer, Thana Division, were transferred to the Public Health Branch with effect from the 1st November 1931. Extensions of pipe lines for the supply of water in Khar were laid during the year at a cost of Rs. 3,672. The expenditure on repairs and maintenance of the Water Supply Schemes amounted to Rs. 2,55,320. The total receipts realised during the year amounted to Rs. 4,61,863.

Ambernath Electric Supply Scheme.—With effect from the 1st November 1931, the generation of electricity at the power house at Ambernath was discontinued and arrangements were

made with Messrs. Tatas for the supply of the energy required by Government for the working of the Ambernath Water Supply Scheme and for distribution to consumers at Ambernath. The plant which became surplus due to the closing of the power house was disposed of. The receipts and expenditure on the scheme amounted to Rs. 29,764 and Rs. 18,155, respectively.

Civil Aviation.—The work of preparing a landing ground at Juhu which was commenced during 1930-31 on behalf of the Government of India was in progress. The expenditure incurred on the project during the year amounted to Rs. 2,69,930.

INDUSTRIAL HOUSING SCHEME

The administration of the Industrial Housing Scheme for the year 1931-32 showed satisfactory results, for not only was there a gradual increase in occupancies but also rent recoveries, as explained below, were excellent. Out of 207 chawls with 16,208 rooms, 130 with 8,580 rooms were occupied at the close of the year as against 126 with 7,800 rooms in April 1931. The scale of rents for tenements in certain areas remained unchanged throughout the year.

Out of 324 shops, 162 were occupied during the year.

The rent collections (including arrears) amounted to Rs. 6,98,251 against an assessment of Rs. 6,96,253, recording a recovery percentage of 100·3. This percentage is practically the same as last year, when the collections amounted to Rs. 6,52,706 against an assessment of Rs. 6,51,447.

The total amount due from absconders was Rs. 13,163 as contrasted with Rs. 24,848 due in the previous year. The amount recovered was Rs. 3,266. The total amount written off was Rs. 1,30,403 as against Rs. 28,986 in the preceding year. This amount represents a large accumulation of arrears which were found irrecoverable after the prolonged mill strike of 1928 and the riots of 1929.

Establishment charges amounted to Rs. 84,433 or 12 per cent. of the assessment as against 13 per cent. last year.

The Presidency Infant Welfare Society and the Baby and Health Week Association continued to do good work, and a Maternity Home under the auspices of the former society was opened at DeLisle Road.

RESIDENTIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SUBURBAN SCHEMES

During the year 1931-32, 67,752 square yards of land valued at Rs. 2,04,052 were disposed of in the various suburban residential schemes against 310,575 square yards worth Rs. 4,02,717 sold in the previous year. The total area that

has been sold since the inception of the schemes—up to 31st March last—amounted to 1,656,187 square yards which realised Rs. 40,20,823. In Khar, which continued to be a popular scheme, 20,498 square yards were sold against 24,896 last year. There are in all 340 completed buildings in this scheme with five more under construction. In the Andheri sector of Sahar 33,630 square yards were sold.

The total expenditure on the residential schemes was Rs. 13,159.

During the year Rs. 3,18,531 were advanced for buildings purposes under the State-aided scheme.

The Land Manager continued to carry on the Arbitration work involved in the Town Planning Schemes. There are 23 schemes under consideration or sanction. The total area involved in the schemes is 1,358 acres.

CONSULTING SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT

The activities of the Department in Town Planning, under the Town Planning Act, were, owing to financial considerations, confined to furthering progress on, or completing, Schemes which were in hand at the commencement of the period under review. In March 1931, there were 11 uncompleted Town Planning Schemes covering an area of 7,000 acres in various stages of progress. During the year, two schemes covering an area of 551 acres received the final sanction of Government, and two completed schemes covering an area of 1,824 acres were with Government for sanction, and progress was made in Arbitration in four out of the remaining seven schemes.

Twenty-five Schemes have been undertaken to date (excluding those in the Bombay Suburban District) and 13, covering, 3,000 acres have been sanctioned by Government and the areas are now in course of development.

In addition, 12 schemes covering an area of 948 acres in which the invokation of the Town Planning Act was unnecessary were prepared by the Department at the instance of Collectors or Commissioners.

The tendency of people in large towns to leave the congested areas of the cities and move into the more pleasant and open suburban areas still continues, despite financial depression and is particularly apparent in Karachi, Poona and Ahmedabad.

The areas laid out for Co-operative Housing Societies by the Department, during the last two years, have mostly been in the suburbs of Ahmedabad. In Karachi, large areas were laid out

in previous years and have not yet been entirely absorbed, and in Poona, the Town Planning Scheme provides areas which are sufficient to meet present demands.

The volume of valuation for the purpose of acquisition of land under the Land Acquisition Act has been less than the normal of recent years, excepting that undertaken by Special Land Acquisition Officers of the Department which has maintained its former level; but there has been a very marked increase in the volume of Non-agricultural assessment, under Rule 82 of the Land Revenue Code, referred to this Department for proposals for fixing standard rates and zones.

The actual cost of the Department amounted to Rs. 1,11,460.

MILITARY

Auxiliary Force (India).—The question of the reorganisation of this Force was under consideration by a representative Committee.

Indian Territorial Force.—The 2nd (Bombay Presidency) Urban Infantry, I. T. F., showed a slight increase in strength. Only 21 per cent., of the rank and file completed periodical (annual) training during 1931–32. In the 11/5th Mahratta Light Infantry, I. T. F., about 500 recruits were enrolled during the years 1931 and 1932, and many applications for enrolments had to be refused as there were no vacancies. This indicates that the service in the I. T. F. is becoming more popular.

During the year under report, the 1st (Bombay) Battalion, University Training Corps, I. T. F., was able to keep up to its full strength of 663 officers and other ranks. 75 per cent. of the Corps were recruits. The standard of knowledge of the officers was good. The majority of them were attached to a Regular Unit during the year.

Karachi Corps Auxiliary Force (India.).—Progress was satisfactory, 67 other ranks having joined this Corps during the year under report. The corps was inspected by the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Command, on 30th October 1931, when the turnout was satisfactory. The corps was also inspected in April 1932 by the Commander, Sind (Ind.) Brigade Area.

No. 2 (Karachi) Company, M. G. C. were successful in winning the " Nanpara " Cup for the fourth successive year. The monthly Rifle Competitions were well patronised and the Rifle Club was flourishing.

No. 11 (Karachi) Company, U. T. C.—The training progress of the Unit was fair, although it was only possible to have four hours parade per week. There were also continual changes in the personnel of the Colleges which observed a large number of holidays. A cadre was held for Non-commissioned Officers and Cadets during the year.

PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

Bombay Society.—During the year 1931, the Agents of the Society in Bombay City prosecuted 13,864 cases of cruelty to animals. In 13,452 cases fines only were inflicted, in 200 cases the accused were acquitted and in the rest the accused were either warned or punished. The number of animals sent to the Bai Sakarbai Dinshaw Petit Hospital for Animals for treatment was 994. 240 animals found to be suffering from incurable diseases were sent from this hospital to the Pinjrapole at Bombay. In Bandra, there were 427 prosecutions and fines were inflicted in 392 cases. The accused were acquitted in 22 cases and in the rest they were warned and discharged. The amount of fines levied in cruelty cases prosecuted by the Society's Agents is given to the Society, after deducting 10 per cent., for Government expenses. The amount thus received by the Society in 1931 by way of Police fines was Rs. 26,406 out of the total receipts of Rs. 28,804. The expenditure was Rs. 39,391.

Karachi Society.—In Karachi 2,553 cases of cruelty to animals were instituted by the Inspectors of the Society and the number of animals involved in these cases was 2,860. In 2,547 cases the accused were convicted. The total realisations from fines including arrears of the previous year were Rs.7,934. The expenditure was about Rs. 32,000.

Besides these Societies there are similar Societies in the Bombay Presidency at Ahmedabad, Surat, Nasik, Poona, Ahmednagar, Sukkur, Shikarpur, Larkana and Hyderabad.

ARCHÆOLOGY

The total grant for conservation works in the Western Circle, during the year under report, amounted to Rs. 68,183 against Rs. 1,41,609 for the previous year. A sum of Rs. 22,826 was expended on departmental works and the balance of Rs. 45,357 was placed at the disposal of the Public Works Department. The reduction in the grants rendered it necessary to keep in abeyance all except a few urgent repair works and to substantially reduce the usual allotments for current repairs to the several monuments.

Of the works undertaken by the Superintendent, Archæological Survey, the special repairs to the Malav Tank at Dholka, District Ahmedabad, was the largest, a sum of Rs. 10,000 being expended. Ancient tanks are found at many places in India but Gujarat has the distinction of possessing the best of them from the point of architectural beauty and scientific design. The measures of conservation undertaken during this year have put the Malav tank in a good state of preservation and saved it from further dilapidation.

The other important work executed in the year was the restoration of the supporting pillars of the south verandah of the caves at Jogeshwari, near Bombay.

Of the special works carried out by the Public Works Department, the only work requiring attention was the repair of the monuments at Champaner which was brought to completion after spending a total amount of Rs. 92,000 during the past 19 years. The Jami and the Kevda Masjids, Citadel wall, the Godhra and Kasbin Talao Gateways, Sat Manzil and the Maccai Kothar were put into good repairs during the year.

From the grants for current repairs nearly 325 monuments received attention.

APPENDIX I

RESERVED SUBJECTS

(1) Water supplies, irrigation and canals, drainage and embankments, water storage and water power.
(2) Land Revenue Administration.
(3) Famine Relief.
(4) Land Acquisition.
(5) Administration of Justice.
(6) Provincial Law Reports.
(7) Administrator-General and Official Trustee.
(8) Non-judicial stamps ; judicial stamps.
(9) Development of mineral resources which are Government property.
(10) Industrial matters, included under the following heads :—
  (*a*) Factories ;
  (*b*) Settlement of labour disputes ;
  (*c*) Electricity ;
  (*d*) Boilers ;
  (*e*) Gas ;
  (*f*) Smoke Nuisances ; and
  (*g*) Welfare of labour and housing.
(11) Ports (with certain exceptions).
(12) Inland water-ways, including shipping and navigation, not declared central subjects.
(13) Police, including railway police.
(14) (*a*) Regulation of betting and gambling ;
  (*b*) Prevention of cruelty to animals ;
  (*c*) Protection of wild birds and animals ;
  (*d*) Control of poisons ;
  (*e*) Control of motor vehicles ; and
  (*f*) Control of dramatic performances and cinematographs.
(15) Control of newspapers, books and printing presses.
(16) Coroners.
(17) Excluded Areas.
(18) Criminal Tribes.
(19) European vagrancy.
(20) Prisons, prisoners (except State prisoners) and reformatories.
(21) Pounds and prevention of cattle trespass.
(22) Treasure trove.
(23) Provincial Government Presses.
(24) Elections, Indian and Provincial.
(25) Regulation of medical and other professional qualifications and standards.
(26) Local Fund Audit.

(27) Control of members of all-India and provincial services serving within the province and control of public services within the province other than all-India services.

(28) Sources of provincial revenue—

(*a*) taxes, included in the Schedules to the Scheduled Taxes Rules, or

(*b*) taxes, not included in those Schedules, which are imposed by or under provincial legislation which has received the previous sanction of the Governor-General.

(29) Borrowing of money on the sole credit of the province.

TRANSFERRED SUBJECTS

(1) Local Self-Government (except Cantonments).
(2) Medical administration.
(3) Public health, sanitation and vital statistics.
(4) Pilgrimages within British India.
(5) Education (with some exceptions).
(6) Public Works—

(*a*) Construction and maintenance of provincial buildings.
(*b*) Roads, bridges, ferries, etc.
(*c*) Tramways within municipal areas.
(*d*) Light and feeder-railways and extra-municipal tramways for which provision is made by provincial legislation.

(7) Agriculture.
(8) Civil Veterinary Department.
(9) Fisheries.
(10) Co-operative Societies.
(11) Forests.
(12) Excise.
(13) Registration of deeds and documents.
(14) Registration of births, deaths and marriages.
(15) Religious and Charitable Endowments.
(16) Development of industries, including industrial research and technical education.
(17) Stores and stationery required for Transferred Departments.
(18) Adulteration of food-stuffs and other articles.
(19) Weights and measures.
(20) Libraries, museums and exhibitions (with certain exceptions).
(21) Historical monuments (with certain exceptions).
(22) Town planning and development in municipal areas (except cases dealing with the Bombay City and Suburban Division).

APPENDIX II

List of Official Reports used in the compilation of this Volume

PART II

CHAPTER I

INDIAN STATES

Annual Reports of the Indian States referred to in the Chapter for the year 1931–32.

CHAPTER II

LAND RECORDS

Annual Report of the Department of Land Records in the Bombay Presidency (including Sind), Report of the Collector and Talukdari Settlement Officer, Ahmedabad, and the Report on the Administration of Incumbered Estates in Sind for the year 1931–32.

CHAPTER III

LAW AND JUSTICE

Reports on the Administration of Civil and Criminal Justice in the Bombay Presidency and Sind and Report on the Administration of the Registration Department for the year 1931, Annual Report on the working of the Indian Companies Act, 1913, and Proceedings of the Bombay Legislative Council for the year 1931–32.

CHAPTER IV

POLICE AND CRIME

Annual Police Reports of the Bombay Presidency, Sind and Aden, Annual Report of the Bombay City Police, Administration Reports on Government Workhouses and of the Bombay Jail Department and the Report on the working of the Criminal Tribes Act in the Bombay Presidency for the year 1931.

CHAPTER V

AGRICULTURE, WEATHER AND CROPS

The Season and Crop Report of the Bombay Presidency, Reports of the Departments of Agriculture, Bombay Presidency Proper and Sind, Land Revenue Administration Report of the Bombay Presidency, including Sind, Annual Report on the working of Co-operative Societies in the Bombay Presidency, Annual Report on Forests, Note on the Weather of the Bombay Presidency and the Annual Report of the Empress and Bund Gardens, Poona, for the year 1931–32.

APPENDICES

CHAPTER VI

TRADE AND COMMERCE

Annual Report of the Department of Industries for the year 1931–32, Annual Factory Report of the Bombay Presidency and Annual Report on the working of the Workmen's Compensation Act for the year 1931, Annual Report on the Administration of the Bombay Maternity Benefit Act, 1931, Report on the Administration of the Bombay Boiler Inspection Department, Annual Report of the Bombay Smoke Nuisances Commission, Annual Report on the Sea-borne Trade of the Bombay Presidency, Report on the Maritime Trade of the Province of Sind and Report on the Trade and Navigation of the Port of Aden for the year 1931–32.

CHAPTER VII

PUBLIC WORKS

Administration Report of the Public Works Department for the year 1931–32.

CHAPTER VIII

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL RELIEF

Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for the Government of Bombay for the year 1931, Annual Report on Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries for the year 1931, Annual Report of the Haffkine Institute and Report on Mental Hospitals for the year 1931, Report on Vaccination in the Bombay Presidency for the year 1931–32, Annual Report of the Chemical Analyser to Government, Bombay, for the year 1931 and Annual Administration Report of the Civil Veterinary Department in the Bombay Presidency, including Sind, for the year 1931–32.

CHAPTER IX

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

Report on Municipal Taxation and Expenditure for the Bombay Presidency, including Sind, Administration Report of the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay, Annual Report on Local Boards in the Bombay Presidency, Administration Report of the City of Bombay Improvement Trust and Annual Reports on Port Trusts, Bombay, Karachi and Aden, for the year 1931-32.

CHAPTER X

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Land Revenue Administration Report of the Bombay Presidency and Sind and Reports on the Administration of the Excise Department in the Bombay Presidency, Sind and Aden.

CHAPTER XI

INSTRUCTION

Report of the Director of Public Instruction in the Bombay Presidency for the year 1931–32, Report of the Reformatory School at Yeravda and the Report of the Royal Asiatic Society (Bombay Branch) for the year 1931, Administration Report of the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay and the Annual Report of the Victoria Museum, Karachi, for the year 1931–32.

CHAPTER XII

MISCELLANEOUS

Administration Reports for the Diocese of Bombay and of the Presidency Senior Chaplain, Church of Scotland, Bombay Presidency, Annual Report on Government Printing and Stationery, Annual Report on the Administration of the Industrial Housing Scheme for the year 1931–32, Annual Reports of the Bombay and Karachi Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for the years 1931 and 1931–32 respectively and Report of the Archaeological Survey of India, Western Circle, for the year 1931–32.

APPENDIX III

1931-32

GOVERNOR

His Excellency the Right Honourable Sir Frederick Hugh Sykes, P.C., G.C.I.E., G.B.E., K.C.B., C.M.G. (Took his seat, 9th December 1928.) On leave from 26th April 1931 to 22nd October 1931.

His Excellency the Honourable Sir John Ernest Buttery Hotson, K.C.S.I., O.B.E., Officiating Governor. (Took his seat, 26th April 1931.)

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

The Honourable Sir John Ernest Buttery Hotson, K.C.S.I., O.B.E. (Took his seat, 24th March 1926). On leave from 23rd October 1931 preparatory to retirement.	Home Member and Vice-President of Council.
The Honourable Mr. George Arthur Thomas, C.I.E. (Took his seat, 11th April 1931.)	Home Member.
The Honourable Sir Ghulam Husain Hidayatallah, Kt. (Took his seat, 23rd June 1928.)	General Member and Vice-President of Council.
The Honourable Sir Govind Balwant Pradhan, Kt. (Took his seat, 22nd September 1928.)	Finance Member.
The Honourable Mr. Walter Frank Hudson, C.I.E. (Took his seat, 28th August 1929.)	Revenue Member.

MINISTERS

The Honourable Moulvi Sir Rafiuddin Ahmad. (Took his seat, 10th November 1930.)	Education.
The Honourable Sardar Sir Rustom Jehangir Vakil, Kt. (Took his seat, 10th November 1930.)	Local Self-Government.
The Honourable Diwan Bahadur Siddappa Totappa Kambli. (Took his seat, 10th November 1930.)	Agriculture.

BOMBAY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PRESIDENT

The Honourable Sir Ali Muhammad Khan Dehlavi, Kt.

DEPUTY PRESIDENT

Mr. N. E. Navle.

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